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THE HISTORY

OF THE

FIVE PITCAIRNS





THE HISTORY  
OF THE  
FIFE PITCAIRNS

THE HISTORY  
OF  
RICH FITZGERALD







Arms  
of the  
Pitcairns of Forthar.  
1630.

C. Pitcairn.



THE HISTORY  
OF THE  
**FIFE PITCAIRNS**

WITH  
Transcripts from Old Charters

BY  
**CONSTANCE PITCAIRN**



WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS  
EDINBURGH AND LONDON  
MCMV



*THIS BOOK*  
*IS WRITTEN AS A MEMORIAL*  
*OF*  
*JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN,*  
*MY REVERED AND*  
*DEARLY LOVED FATHER.*





TO

*THE RIGHT HONOURABLE*

*THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, K.G.,*

*LORD LIEUTENANT OF FIFE*

*WHOSE WORK AND CHARACTER*

*HAVE WON*

*THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF*

*HIS COUNTRYMEN*



## INTRODUCTION.

---

THERE is, I believe, a desire in the minds of many to know something, however fragmentary, of the lives of their forefathers. My original idea in writing a history of the Pitcairns who lived in the old Kingdom of Fife from 1250 to 1809 was the hope that it might interest various members of our family; but inasmuch as the Pitcairns were mixed up with the social and political life of the times in which they lived, and as Fife in the olden days saw many stirring scenes and events of national importance (Falkland Palace and Dunfermline Palace in Fife being for long the favourite abodes of the kings of Scotland, and St Andrews the centre of religious life and learning), it is possible others may care to read the history of an old Fife family, and the doings of a bygone time.

The Pitcairns being a family of some distinction in Fife, and for six hundred years having lived on their estates at Innernethy, Pitlour, Pitcairn, and Forthar, they naturally intermarried with many of the well-known county families.

The Ramsays, the Balfours, the Beatouns of Balfour, the Lindsays of the Byres, and the Lindsays of Kirkforthar; the Murrays of Balvaird, the Seatons, the Murrays of Ochertyre, the Ruthvens of Red Castle, the Douglasses of Glenbervie, the Erskines, the Melvilles, the Anstruthers,



the Aytouns, and the Hamiltons, were all connected by marriage at one time or another with the family.

The Pitcairns were a peaceable race: they seem to have done few doughty deeds of valour, but lived as simple Scottish country gentlemen on their own lands, taking their part in the ordinary life of the day as magistrates and sheriffs of the county. One of the Pitcairns, Robert, Secretary of State during the Regency and in the reign of James VI., a notable man of his time, was much at Court, Commendator of Dunfermline, and Ambassador to Queen Elizabeth. Others had the hereditary honour of being chief falconers to the king, with the right to a sleeping-chamber in the palace at Holyrood. Two or three were gentlemen of the bed-chamber to King James VI. and Charles I. Two of the Pitcairn descendants on the female side were Lord Chancellors, four were famous doctors.

But although few were distinguished in battle or in arms, it appears to me that a golden thread ran through the lives of many of the race. They were remarkable for their kindness and charity, for their affectionate loyalty to friends and relations, and especially for their devotion to their king and country,—Andrew Pitcairn and seven sons were killed at the battle of Flodden Field. Some were ardent Jacobites, their estates being confiscated in consequence. Few were soldiers, but many had literary tastes. Some were clergymen, others practised medicine; not a few lived noble lives, and tried to serve God and do good in their generation.

It seemed therefore a good thing that a record should be written of them; for it is not, after all, where a man is placed, or how great his possessions are, which makes him of interest to his fellow-men, but what his character is, and the good he does with the means at his disposal in the times in which he lives.

To be a patriot, a philanthropist, to have the welfare of others at heart, to alleviate suffering, to minister to those in sorrow, is, to my thinking, in so far as men try to carry it out, worthy to be recorded for future generations.

I feel I must express how imperfect I think this book is, and how very far it falls short of what I should like it to be; but with all its imperfections, at any rate I have tried my best that the information contained in it should be as accurate as possible and from undoubted sources.

In compiling this History of the Pitcairns, I acknowledge with grateful thanks the kindness and help I have received from the Duke of Athole, the Earl of Elgin, the Earl of Lindsay, and from Sir W. Balfour Paul, Lord Lyon King-at-Arms, for his great kindness in giving me valuable information about the Pitcairn arms. My sincere thanks are also due to Mr W. Lindsay, K.C., and Sir Patrick Keith Murray, Bart. of Ochtertyre, who have given me much valuable information relating to the various marriages. To Mr Seton of Ayton for his kind help, with notes as to the arms of Pitcairn. To Mr Edward Balfour of Balbirnie and Mr Charles Balfour of Newton Don, and especially to the latter, who has kindly taken great trouble in writing a full account of the transfer of lands between the Balfours and Pitcairns in 1500-1600, which I give verbatim in the book.

My father's researches in 1864 have also been most valuable and helpful, as he had the necessary registers searched for the births and deaths of the Forthar Pitcairns as far back as 1642.

I have also to thank the Earl of Minto, Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart. of Balcaskie, Mr W. B. Skene of Pitlour, Mr Pitcairn of Pitcullo, and Mr James E. Pitcairn, for allowing their family pictures and miniatures to be copied; Mrs Gorman, Mrs Rice, and particularly Mrs Pitcairn

Campbell, for the loan of family papers; Captain Murray, Thriepland, for information from his family history; and to the late Sir Peter Arthur Halkett for his kindness in sending a photograph of the passport of Robert Pitcairn, A.D. 1574. To Colonel Home and Mrs Drummond for photographs of Pitcairns House, and to Lord Rollo, the proprietor, for allowing them to be taken. Also to the Rev. David Lee Pitcairn, Colonel Dalbiac, Miss Onslow, Mr Morries of Gogar, Mr Alan Reid, and Dr Maitland Thomson of the Register House, Edinburgh, for valuable information,—to all of whom I am sincerely grateful.

I should not like to miss this opportunity of thanking Messrs Blackwood & Sons for their unvarying courtesy, and great help, in giving me the benefit of their valuable advice in connection with the arrangement of this book.

CONSTANCE PITCAIRN.

ECCLESLEA, HASLEMERE,  
*April 1905.*

# CONTENTS.

---

CHAP.	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	ix
I. PITCAIRN COATS OF ARMS . . . . .	I
II. THE EARLIER HISTORY OF THE FAMILY . . . . .	9
III. THE LINDSAYS OF THE BYRES . . . . .	23
IV. HENRY PITCAIRN, ELEVENTH LORD OF PITCAIRN AND FORTHAR . . . . .	37
V. DAVID PITCARNE, TWELFTH LAIRD OF PITCARNE AND FORTHAR . . . . .	43
VI. TRANSFER OF DOVAN TO THE PITCAIRN FAMILY . . . . .	53
VII. DAVID PITCAIRN'S CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN . . . . .	62
VIII. LORD ROBERT PITCAIRN, COMMENDATOR OF DUNFERM- LINE, THIRTEENTH LAIRD OF PITCAIRN AND FORTHAR . . . . .	77
IX. ROBERT PITCAIRN MADE SECRETARY OF STATE TO KING JAMES VI. AND AMBASSADOR TO QUEEN ELIZABETH . . . . .	97
X. CONCLUSION OF ROBERT PITCAIRN'S LIFE . . . . .	112
XI. FOURTEENTH LAIRD, JOHN PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK AND FORTHAR . . . . .	123
XII. FIFTEENTH LAIRD, HENRY PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK . . . . .	133
XIII. ANDREW PITCAIRN, CHIEF FALCONER TO KING CHARLES I. . . . .	143
XIV. ANDREW PITCAIRN'S LIFE— <i>continued</i> . . . . .	156



XV. DAVID PITCAIRN, SIXTEENTH LAIRD OF PITCAIRN AND FORTHAR . . . . .	166
XVI. WILLIAM PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, SEVENTEENTH LAIRD OF PITCAIRN AND THE BARONY OF FORTHAR . . . . .	175
XVII. ALEXANDER PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, EIGHTEENTH IN SUCCESSION, AND LAIRD OF THE BARONY OF FORTHAR . . . . .	179
XVIII. DAVID PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, NINETEENTH LAIRD . . . . .	181
XIX. THE REV. JAMES PITCAIRN, TWENTIETH LAIRD . . . . .	186
XX. THE REV. ROBERT PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK . . . . .	200
XXI. THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PITCAIRN . . . . .	206
XXII. SIR JAMES PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK . . . . .	218
XXIII. THE LIFE OF JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN . . . . .	248
XXIV. CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES . . . . .	283

## BRANCH I.

XXV. THE PITCAIRNS OF INNERNETHY . . . . .	331
--	-----

## BRANCH II.

XXVI. THE PITCAIRNS OF PITLOUR . . . . .	342
XXVII. PATRICK PITCAIRNE (II.) OF PITLOUR . . . . .	355

## BRANCH III.

## THE PITCAIRNES OF PITCAIRNE AND UNSTOUN.

XXVIII. THE PITCAIRNES OF PITCAIRNE . . . . .	364
XXIX. DR ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE . . . . .	370
XXX. CONTINUATION OF DR PITCAIRNE'S LIFE AND WRITINGS . . . . .	384

## BRANCH IV.

XXXI. THE PITCAIRNS OF DYSART . . . . .	409
XXXII. DR WILLIAM PITCAIRN, PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, F.R.S., F.S.A. . . . .	423
XXXIII. MAJOR JOHN PITCAIRN . . . . .	434
XXXIV. DR DAVID PITCAIRN, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., F.S.A. . . . .	454

# CONTENTS.

xv

## BRANCH V.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF DREGHORN CASTLE.

XXXV. THE DREGHORN PITCAIRNS . . . . .	463
XXXVI. DR WILLIAM ROBERTSON . . . . .	475
XXXVII. DR ROBERTSON'S DESCENDANTS . . . . .	494

## BRANCH VI.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF PITCULLO CASTLE, FIFE.

XXXVIII. PITCAIRNS OF PITCULLO . . . . .	503
--	-----

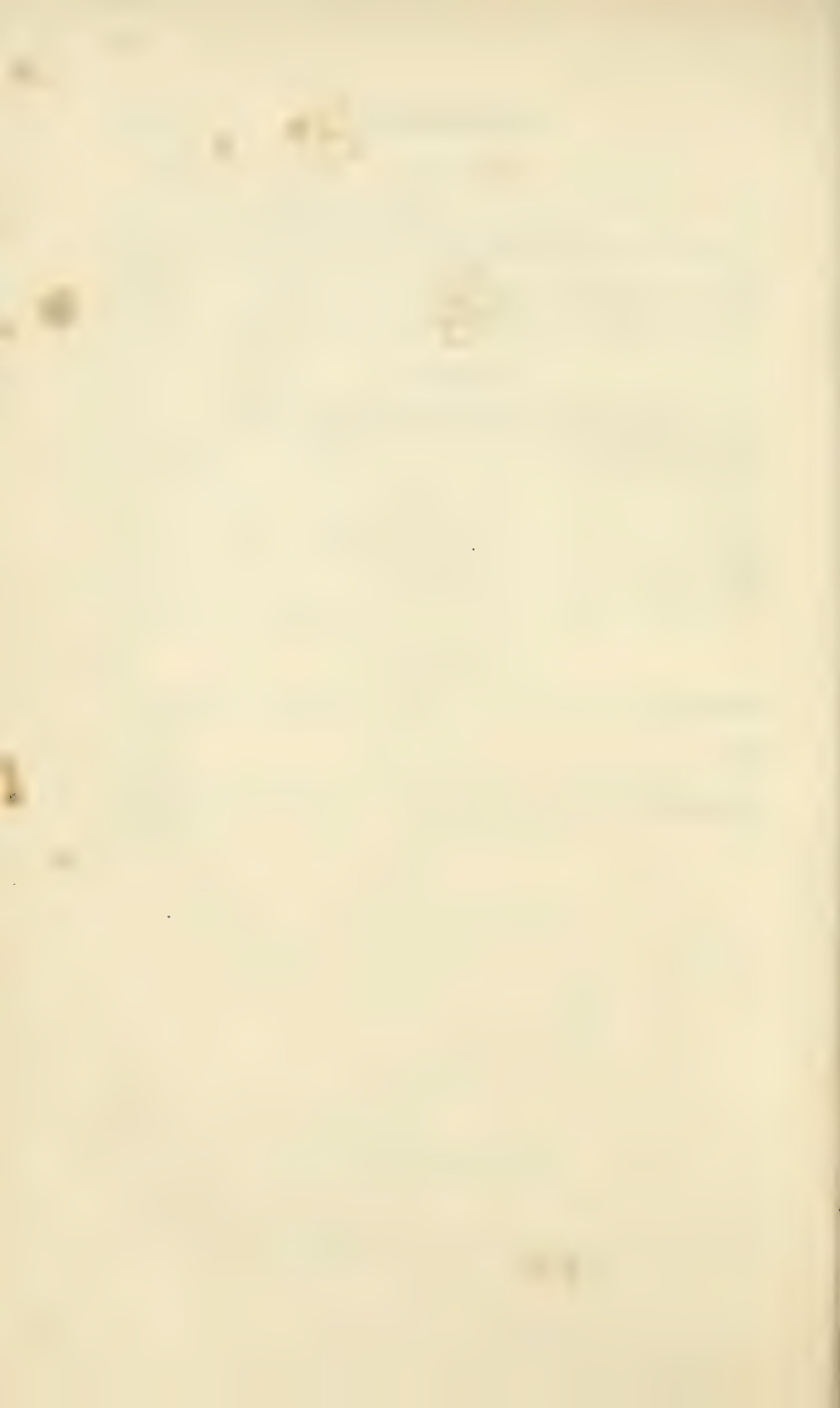
## BRANCH VII.

### THE PERTHSHIRE PITCAIRNS.

XXXIX. THE PERTHSHIRE PITCAIRNS . . . . .	510
XL. LIFE OF ROBERT PITCAIRN, W.S., 1793-1855 . . . . .	521

---

AUTHORITIES CONSULTED . . . . .	525
INDEX . . . . .	527
LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS . . . . .	531
PEDIGREE OF THE FIFE PITCAIRNS . . . . .	<i>At end.</i>



# ILLUSTRATIONS.

---

	PAGE
ARMS OF PITCAIRN OF FORTHAR. BY CONSTANCE PITCAIRN	
<i>Frontispiece</i>	
OLD HOUSE OF FORTHAR. BY CONSTANCE PITCAIRN . . .	18
COLLAIRNIE TOWER . . . . .	40
DURIE HOUSE . . . . .	43
THE EARL OF MANSFIELD, LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND.	
BY COPLEY, R.A. . . . .	72
ABBOT PITCAIRN'S HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE . . . .	81
LORD ROBERT PITCAIRN'S PASSPORT. FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH	105
PITCAIRN AND MURRAY ARMS, LIMEKILNS, 1581 . . .	114
ROBERT PITCAIRN'S TOMB, 1584 . . . . .	121
MRS ROBERT PITCAIRN AND MRS WILLIAM PITCAIRN . .	204
SIR JAMES PITCAIRN, K.T. . . . .	224
SIR CHARLES DALBIAC, K.C.B. . . . .	230
HARRIET DALBIAC, WIFE OF SIR JAMES PITCAIRN	} . 232
COLONEL ROBERT PITCAIRN, SON OF SIR JAMES PITCAIRN	
JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN, 1827 ( <i>miniature</i> ) . . . .	248
JOHN TURNER, BORN 1750, GREAT-GRANDFATHER OF MRS	
J. P. PITCAIRN . . . . .	250
THE REV. JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN, 1849 . . . .	254
ECCLES CHURCH, A.D. 1111 . . . . .	293
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE . . . . .	304
HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE . . . .	308



CANON PITCAIRN, 1892 . . . . .	320
MRS JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN. MINIATURE BY CONSTANCE PITCAIRN . . . . .	326
COAT OF ARMS OF THE PITLOUR PITCAIRNS . . . . .	342
PITLOUR HOUSE . . . . .	345
PATRICK PITCAIRNE OF PITLOUR . . . . .	348
JOHN SKENE OF PITLOUR . . . . .	356
DAVID SKENE OF PITLOUR . . . . .	358
COAT OF ARMS OF THE PITCAIRNES OF PITCAIRNE . . . . .	364
DR ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE, 1652-1713. BY SIR JOHN MEDINA	370
THE COUNTESS OF KELLIE ( <i>NÉE</i> JANET PITCAIRNE), BORN 1699 . . . . .	403
THE LADY JANET ERSKINE, DIED 1770 . . . . .	404
KELLIE CASTLE . . . . .	407
COAT OF ARMS OF DR WILLIAM PITCAIRN . . . . .	423
DR WILLIAM PITCAIRN, P.R.C.P., F.R.S. AFTER SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS . . . . .	424
MAJOR JOHN PITCAIRN, 1760 ( <i>miniature</i> ) . . . . .	434
PISTOLS USED BY MAJOR PITCAIRN ON LEXINGTON COMMON . . . . .	447
MRS WILLIAM CAMPBELL . . . . .	451
DR DAVID PITCAIRN, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., F.S.A. AFTER HOPPNER	454
COAT OF ARMS OF THE DREGHORN PITCAIRNS . . . . .	463
DREGHORN CASTLE . . . . .	465
TOMB OF DAVID PITCAIRN OF DREGHORN CASTLE, 1709 . . . . .	470
DR WILLIAM ROBERTSON. BY SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS . . . . .	475
THE SECOND COUNTESS OF MINTO AND HER CHILDREN. BY HAYTER, R.A. . . . .	496
LORD BROUGHAM AND VAUX, LORD CHANCELLOR . . . . .	500
COAT OF ARMS OF THE PITCULLO PITCAIRNS . . . . .	503
PROVOST JOHN PITCAIRN . . . . .	504
MRS JOHN PITCAIRN . . . . .	506
PITCULLO CASTLE . . . . .	508
COAT OF ARMS OF THE PERTHSHIRE PITCAIRNS . . . . .	510
PITCAIRNS HOUSE . . . . .	510

# THE FIFE PITCAIRNS.

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## CHAPTER I.

### PITCAIRN COATS OF ARMS.

IN 'The Fair Maid of Perth' Sir Walter Scott gives a poetic and glowing description of that part of Scotland where the family of Pitcairn had their beginning. He says:—

One of the most beautiful points of view which Britain, or perhaps the world, can afford, is the prospect from a spot called the Wicks of Baiglie, being a species of niche at which the traveller used to arrive (before the road was altered) after a long stage from Kinross to Perth, through a waste and uninteresting country, and from which, as forming a pass over the summit of a ridgy eminence which he had gradually surmounted, he beheld stretching beneath him the valley of the Tay, traversed by its ample and lordly stream; the town of Perth, with its two large meadows or Inches, its steeples and its towers, the hills of Moncrieff and Kinnoull faintly rising in picturesque rocks, partly clothed with wood, the rich margin of the river, studded with elegant mansions, and the distant view of the Grampians, the northern screen of this exquisite landscape.<sup>1</sup>

Moncrieff and Kinnoull hills, on the south and north sides of the river respectively, are splendid points of view also. From them are seen the fertile Carse of Gowrie and the Firth of Tay, with the beautiful valley of

<sup>1</sup> Sir Walter Scott, *The Fair Maid of Perth*.

Strathearn (so called from *strath*, an old Scottish word meaning a vale through which a river flows), bounded by the hills of Menteith, Newburgh, and the Fifeshire hills, whilst from the last is the view described by Sir Walter Scott, and which is also called by Pennant "the glory of Scotland."

Innernethy, an estate which belonged to the Pitcairns from a very early period, was situated at the north-eastern entrance to Strathearn, near the confluence of the Tay and the Earn, about three miles from Perth.

The land stretched along the north bank of the Nethy stream, as the name Innernethy indicates, in contradistinction to Abernethy, on the over or other side. The soil must then, as now, have been of great fertility and richness, being partly deep loam and partly clay.

The manor-place or mansion-house, all traces of which have now disappeared, stood near the junction of the Nethy and the Earn. The situation was very fine, facing Abernethy, seated, as old Camden in his description of Scotland has it, "at the feet of the Occellian Mountains amid scenes of surpassing beauty."

Abernethy is of historic interest. The word *aber* means the outlet of the stream where the Nethy joins the Earn. In former days it was both the royal residence of the kings of Scotland and the seat of the university, until King Kenneth, son of Alpin, transferred the episcopal see to the Royal Fane or Regulus (as it was anciently named), now called St Andrews.

At Abernethy there is an old round tower still standing. It is 74 feet in height, the date about 1150. It is built of smooth blocks of stone, with an ancient and interesting doorway giving admission to the tower, about six feet from the base.

King Kenneth died, according to Fordun, at his palace on Hallyhill, Forteviot, near Innernethy, on a tongue of land between the Earn and the river May, on the 13th of February 870, and was buried at Iona.

Forteviot had once been the old Pictish capital before

Kenneth succeeded in driving the Picts out of Scotland, to quote old Wyntoun:—

“When Alpyne this kyng was dede  
 He left a sowne wes call'd Kyned  
 Dowchty man he wes and stowt  
 All the Peychtis he put out  
 Gret batayles then did he  
 To put in freedom his cuntree.”

The lands of Innernethy in those olden days carried with them a right to salmon-fishing “super aqua de Erne,” valuable pecuniarily and otherwise. They form at the present time part of the estate of Moncreiffe, belonging to Sir Robert Drummond Moncreiffe, Bart.

Besides Innernethy, the Pitcairns owned Pitcairn near Leslie, also Forthar and Freuchy near Falkland, and Downfield, Collerny, Dovan, and Drongie, and at different times Cordoun, Pitcurran, Haltoun, and Pitblae, and houses and lands at and near St Andrews, and lands near Dunfermline.

Pitblae came into the family through the marriage of one Andrew Pitcairn in 1660-93 with Isobel Balvaird, heiress of Balvaird, who came of an ancient race, deriving their surnames from the lands of the same name in the parish of Arngask, and who were proprietors of Glentarkie and Pitinbrog.

Innernethy originally belonged to Sir Hugo de Abernethy, who gave the lands to his kinsman Johannis de Pitcairne. There is a copy of the charter still extant in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, dated 1250, “confirming grant of lands of Innernethy in Strathearn to his kinsman Johannis de Pitcairne from Hugo de Abernethy.” This Sir Hugo de Abernethy and his family were very rich and powerful. One of the Abernethies having killed Macduff, Earl of Fife, and a brother of the earl's being brought to trial by a member of the same family in the time of Baliol, at a meeting of the Estates the King, John Baliol, pronounced sentence in favour of the Abernethies, adjudging to them the lands about which the dispute had arisen. Upon this Macduff, thinking himself ill-used, appealed to Edward, King of



England. Edward cited Baliol to answer, and plead his own cause in the English Parliament, which he did, as he was there with Edward, and sitting next to him in the House, at Westminster.

Baliol, enraged at not being allowed to get some one else to plead for him, and having to obey King Edward, soon after his return to Scotland sent to Edward revoking the surrender of himself and his subjects, on the plea that he had no right to make such a surrender. On receiving this message, Edward promised the kingdom to Bruce if he would help him. He marched against the Scots, defeating them near Berwick, when nearly 7000 were killed, among whom were the flower of the nobility of Lothian and Fife. Edward took Baliol prisoner; the Scottish nobles had again to swear allegiance to him, which they all did with the exception of William Douglas, who, nobly refusing to take the oath, languished and died in an English prison.

Piers de Pyttcayne is mentioned in the Ragman's Roll, 1296, as swearing fealty with the other nobles to Edward I. when he conquered the country. The Ragman's Roll was in Norman-French. Pyttcayne was evidently then living on his lands at Pitcairn, as he is called "de Pyttcayne." The surname of Pitcairn is said by historians to be of "great antiquity in the counties of Fife and Perth, and most of the families of the name originate therefrom, and probably in the first instance derived their name from lands belonging to them, there being various lands in both counties so called from time immemorial."<sup>1</sup>

"Pit" in some cases means pit or hollow, but its usual meaning seems a place or croft.

Nisbet, in his book on heraldry, vol. i. p. 215, published in Edinburgh 1772, writes:—

The sirname of Pitcairn has for its coat argent three mascles gules, as in Pont's Manuscript, but in our new Register they are called lozenges.

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<sup>1</sup> Burke's Commons.

Pitcairn of that Ilk : Quarterly 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges gules (so called); 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle with wings displayed sable for Ramsay. They got the lands of Forthar by marrying the heiress, from which the family is non-designed. And the lands of Pitcairn went off with a younger son, of whom was lineally descended Alexander Pitcairn of Pitcairn, who in the seventeenth century carried the same quartered arms of *Pitcairn of that Ilk* and *Forthar* within a bordure engrailed gules; Crest, a moon in her complement proper; Motto, *Plena refulget*; which family was represented by that learned and eminent physician Dr Archibald Pitcairn of that Ilk, who carries the arms of Pitcairn only within a border ermine.

William Pitcairn of Pitlour : Quarterly 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges, two and one, gules for Pitcairn; 2nd and 3rd azure, a chevron between crescents argent. Crest, an anchor in pale azure. Motto, *Sperabo*.

Pitcairn of Dreghorn : Argent, three lozenges within a border gules, as in the plate of achievements. Motto, *Spes lucis eternæ*.

James Pitcairn of Pitlour and William Pitcairn of Pitlour, 1542. (Lyon Register.)<sup>1</sup>

These families of Pitcairn all proceeded from the one original stock, and were closely connected, the Lord of Pitcairn and Forthar being the Head or Chief of the family.

The eagle which is on their shield appears on the shields in the earliest English rolls: his appearance often denotes an alliance with German princes. The Roll of Arms in the year 1275 commences with the shields<sup>2</sup> of the Emperor of Germany and the King of Germany, which are severally blazoned as “or, an eagle displayed, having two heads sa.,” and “or, an eagle displayed sable.” In York Cathedral, in stained glass, executed before the year 1310, there are shields with both the double-headed and single-headed eagles. The eagle having two heads, which severally look to the dexter and sinister, typified a rule that claimed to extend over both the Eastern and Western Empire.

An eagle is found supporting a shield of William, Earl of Douglas and Mar, A.D. 1378.

<sup>1</sup> Nisbet's book on heraldry, vol. i. p. 215.

<sup>2</sup> From Seton's Scottish Heraldry, A Roll of Arms of the year 1275, printed in *Archæologia*.

An eagle's breast<sup>1</sup> is charged with more than one shield, as in the case of the seals of Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus (1366), and Euphemia Leslie, Countess of Ross, 1381.

Crests are hereditary. The sun (the representation of a human face blazoned in splendour, with sunbeams or rays borne in blazon) forms an early charge.

Commoners, knights, and baronets place their *crest* upon the helm. Princes and peers place their *coronets* upon the helm, the crest distinct above it.

Crests at first were ensigns of high honour, and their use was restricted to a few persons of eminence. They were attached to a wreath or cap or coronet, as the case might be.

Edward VI. had a Tudor rose and the sun in splendour; Henry IV. an eagle displayed for Lancaster.

The Pitcairns' coat of arms, as will be seen from the foregoing, was a very ancient as well as an honourable one, the sun or moon with rays and the eagle being both of ancient date.

Included in Laing's collection of seals there is one of Robert Pitcairn's (Commendator of Dunfermline in 1578), which had been attached to a charter of land given by him to James Murray of Perduies.

Robert was a younger son of David Pitcairn of Forthar, the Chief of the House. On the seal he has the eagle, but only one mascle instead of three.

The Pitcairn arms have been variously blazoned at different times. The fact is that heraldry (contrary to usual belief) had ceased by the latter part of the sixteenth century to be anything like an exact science.

#### ARMS OF THE FORTHAR PITCAIRNS AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

MS. of Sir Robert Forman, Lyon: Azure, a mascle, or, 1st and 4th; an eagle displayed sable, 2nd and 3rd. This is *circa* 1540.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Seton's Scottish Heraldry, p. 268, Plate 12, No. 5.

<sup>2</sup> In Lyon Office.

The Seton Armorial, *c.* 1580, is slightly different : Argent, a masle gules 1st and 4th ; the eagle 2nd and 3rd.<sup>1</sup>

Sir James Balfour's MS., *c.* 1630 : 1st and 4th azure, three masles or ; 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle displayed sable (as in the frontispiece).<sup>1</sup>

Pont's MS. (about the same date) : 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges voided gules ; 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle displayed sable.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Crawford's MS. (about the same date) : 1st and 4th azure, a masle or ; 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle displayed sable.<sup>1</sup>

In the Lyon Register there are the following entries :—

William Pitcairn of Forthar of that Ilk, recorded about 1672 : 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges gules ; 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle displayed sable. Crest, a moon. Motto, *Plena refulget*.

About the same time Alexander Pitcairn of Pitcairn, who is described as "whose father was son of Pitcairn," thus carefully guarding against the assumption of the style of "that ilk" by a cadet, although in possession of the old family property, the Lyon Register recorded the same arms, but with the addition of a bordure engrailed gules. Alexander was the grandson of John Pitcairn of Unstoun (son of Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar), who bought Pitcairn in 1650.

The double-headed eagle has apparently crept into the arms without any authority : however much the different versions of the arms may vary, they are always consistent in giving the eagle with one head only up to 1665.

The eagle quartering was evidently for Ramsay, Henry Pitcairn having married (1460) Elizabeth Ramsay, heiress of Forthar, who then brought part of the estate of Forthar into the family of Pitcairn.<sup>2</sup>

Dr William Pitcairn, of the Dysart branch, by the purchase of Forthar in 1773, did not become entitled to bear the arms of the head of the house until all the senior line was exhausted.

<sup>1</sup> In Lyon Office.

<sup>2</sup> Stodart's Scottish Arms, vol. ii. p. 232.



As early as 1660 the double-headed eagle appeared on the arms of (1) Andrew Pitcairn, Dean of Orkney, a cadet of Forthar; (2) on the coat of Dr Archibald Pitcairn of Pitcairn in 1652-1713; (3) on the Rev. Robert Pitcairn's arms in 1700 (direct descendant of the Forthar Pitcairns), and on those of his son (4) Sir James Pitcairn, 1803. There are three seals of different dates—1665, 1700, 1803—with the double-headed eagle on them, but this must have been a mistake, as all the earlier grants of arms have the single-headed eagle.

The lozenges that are now on the Pitcairn arms instead of mascles no doubt crept in through pure carelessness, although it must be remembered that a mascle and a lozenge voided of the field are the same thing.

Pitcairn, from whence the Pitcairns derive their name, was formerly near Leslie, in Fife. The old manor-house, the ruins of which were still standing in Sibbald's time, have disappeared long ago, although at the present time there is a farm called Pitcairn not far from where the old house stood.

Pitcairns, in Perthshire, another estate, now belonging to Lord Rollo, with a new house built a hundred years ago, is near Dunning. The old manor-house, formerly belonging to the Pitcairns, is turned into the farm-steading. The last Pitcairn living there was John Pitcairn, in the beginning of the nineteenth century. The grounds are most picturesque, with beautiful views of the Ochils, and a romantic glen. In the old house is still to be seen the traces of the ancient doorway, which formerly opened into the walled gardens. These are beautifully kept up by Colonel Home, the present occupier.

After the fifteenth century Innernethy branched off, and was settled on James Pitcairn and his heirs, a younger son of Alexander Pitcairn of that Ilk. It then descended from father to son for more than a hundred years, when it was sold by Andrew Pitcairn of Innernethy in 1655 for the sum of 15,850 merks.



## CHAPTER II.

### THE EARLIER HISTORY OF THE FAMILY.

THE first historical document relating to the Pitcairns is in the reign of Alexander III. It is a charter confirming a grant of the lands of Innerneathy to John de Pitcairne by his kinsman Sir Hugh de Abernethy, in 1250 A.D. In Burke's 'Landed Gentry' it mentions this charter as being in the General Register House, Edinburgh, but it is no longer there.

John de Pitcairn, Laird of Pitcairn and Innerneathy, who lived in 1250, is the first Pitcairn of whom there is any definite knowledge, although there must have been Pitcairns on the lands of Pitcairn for many years before John de Pitcairn lived.

Dr Maitland Thomson writes:—

"This charter and the Earl of Angus' charter of 1454 were copied by Macfarlane in the eighteenth century from the originals, then in the possession of Mr Pitcairn, W.S., Edinburgh (MS. Advocates' Library, 34. 3. 25, p. 177 ff.)

"The other copy, lent by Mr David Lee Pitcairn, cannot have been copied from Macfarlane's, whose copy extends all the contractions.

"It is improbable these writs ever belonged to the Register House, but they may have belonged to Sir William Fraser, who was a Register House official, and who prints in his 'Douglas Book' an abstract of the Procuratory of Resignation on which the 1454 charter proceeded, as in his own possession."

The following are the two copies of the original charter:—

1. Copy of the one formerly in possession of Mr Robert Pitcairn, W.S., Edinburgh, made by Mr Macfarlane the antiquary in the eighteenth century.

2. The one copied many years ago by the Rev. David Lee Pitcairn's uncle from a charter at that time in the General Register House, Edinburgh, is not there now, and all trace of it is lost.

### CHARTER A.D. 1250.

#### *First Copy.*

CARTA ALEXANDRI REGIS Confirmatoria de Terra de Innernithyn.

Alexander Dei Gratia Rex Scotorum omnibus probis hominibus totius terræ sua salutem. Sciant presentes et futuri nos concessisse, et hoc Cartâ nostra confirmâsse Donationem illam quam Hugo de Abirnithyn fecit Johanni de Petcarn consanguineo suo pro Homagio ac servitio de totâ terrâ de Innernithyn ex occidentali parte Potti, tenendam et habendam eidem Johanni et hæredibus suis de predicto Hugone et hæredibus suis in Feodo et hæreditate per rectas divisas suas cum omnibus pertinentiis suis ita liberè quietè plenariè et honorificè sicut Carta dicti Hugonis inde prefato Johanni plenius confecta juste testatur, salvo nostro servitio. Testibus Roberto de Ross, Roberto de Meynes, Gilberto de Hayâ, Johanne de Vallibus, Ricardo Marescall, Thomâ filio Ranulfi apud castrum puellarum tertio Die Junii, Anno Regni Domini Regis primo.

Ex Autographo Pergameno.

#### *Second Copy.*<sup>1</sup>

CHARTER BY KING ALEXANDER III. confirming a Grant by Sir Hugh of Abernethy to John of Petcarn. Dated 3 June [1250].

A. dei grâ Rex Scõt, om̃ibz probis hominibz tocius terre sue Salutem. m̃ sciant presentes & futuri nos concessisse & hac carta nostra confirmasse donacionem illam quam Hugo de Abernithyn fecit Johanni de Pitcar̃ consanguineo suo pro homagio et servicio

<sup>1</sup> Copy lent to me by the Rev. David Lee Pitcairn of Monkton Combe, Bath.

suo de tota terra de Innernethi ex occidentali parte Potti Tenenda et habenda eidem Johanni et heredibus suis de predicto Hugone et heredibus suis in feodo et hereditate per rectas diuisas suas et cum omnibus pertinenciis suis ita libere quiete plenarie et honorifice sicut carta dicti Hugonis inde prefato Johanni plenius confecta in se testatur. Salvo nostro servicio. Testibus Roberto de Roš, Roberto de Megners, Gilberto de Haya, Johanni de Vallibz, Reč Marescall, Thom, filio Ranulf. Apud castrum puellarum tercio die Junii Anno regni Domini Regis primo.

*Translation of the Rev. David Lee Pitcairn's Copy.*

Alexander, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all worthy men of his whole land, greeting! Let those present and future know that we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed, that gift which Hugh of Abernethy has made to John Pitcar, his kinsman, for his homage and service, of the whole land of Innernethie on the west side Poti, To be holden, and had to the same John and his heirs from the said Hugh and his heirs in fee and heritage by their right divisions, and with all their pertinents, as freely, quietly, fully, and honourably as the charter of the said Hugh, more fully made to the same John, in itself testifies. Saving our service. Witnesses—Robert of Ros, Robert of Menzies, Gilbert of Hay, John of Vaux, Richard of Marischel, Thomas, son of Ranulf. At the Castle of the Maidens [Edinburgh], the 3rd day of June, the first year of the King's reign, 1250.

All the names of the above witnesses were men of great distinction at the time, especially Thomas, son of Ranulph, Earl of Moray.

Hugh de Douglas, son of William de Douglas, was in 1259 affianced by his father to Marjory (sister of Hugh, Lord Abernethy), whom he married the same year. "He contributed to the defeat of the Danes at Largs in 1263, succeeded his father 1276, and died without issue before 1288."

This Sir Hugh of Abernethy, son of Sir Patrick Abernethy, styled by Douglas (vol. ii. p. 467) Hugh de Aberneth (or Abyrneth), died before 1296, and had a son, Alexander de Abernethy, who, from his relations with Edwards I. and II. and the English, incurred the pains

of forfeiture to King Robert Bruce, and disappears from history—at least from Douglas's History. Another sister, also called Mary, married Sir Andrew de Leslie, ancestor of the Earl of Rothes. "These families quarter the arms of Abernethy with their own." From Mary Abernethy Sir Andrew de Leslie acquired the baronies of Ballinbreich, county Fife; Caerny, county Perth; Rothes, county Elgin; and quartered the arms of Abernethy with his own.

The Abernethies were a very powerful and rich family, and had large landed estates in Fife. In the petitions of land to be granted in Scotland, there is the entry in the reign of Edward I., 27th day of June, at Newport-Pagnell: "*Prie au Roi Mons. Alex. de Abernethy pour ses lettres que le Roi le vousist don la terre de Strathowyn (Strathearn et Strathbogy) (Strathbogy qui fu au conte détscelles).*" This Alexander was son of Hugh de Abernethy. (The quotation is out of the 'Treasury Records,' translated by Sir Reginald Palgrave.) He does not seem to have had any son, since his eldest daughter Margaret, as one of his three heirs, is included in her father's forfeiture. He had in all three daughters, of whom the above-mentioned Margaret married John Stewart, Earl of Angus, in 1329, and thereby, notwithstanding the forfeiture, conveyed to him the barony of Abernethy, the superiority of which, Douglas tells us, "is still possessed by the family of Douglas, as representatives of the Earls of Angus."

Mary, the second daughter, styled "*Maria, filia Alexandri de Abernethi,*" married about 1325 Sir David de Lyndsay, ancestor of the Earl of Crawford.

The grand-uncle of these ladies, William Abernethy, younger brother of the Hugh Abernethy mentioned above as having died before 1296, and son of Sir Patrick Abernethy (who died before 1257), became Sir William Abernethy of Saltoun, and was direct lineal ancestor of Laurence Abernethy of Saltoun and Rothimay. The last mentioned was, on the 28th June 1445, created a Lord of Parliament, and ordained to be styled Lord Abernethy of Saltoun. In 1669 the peerage devolved on the heir of line,



Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth, whose mother, Margaret Abernethy, daughter of George, seventh Lord Abernethy, had married Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth, senior. He was direct lineal ancestor of Alexander George Fraser, sixteenth Lord Saltoun, and Sir Allan Stewart of Dreghorn, son of Sir John Stewart, who fell at the battle of Falkirk, 1298. Sir James of Pierston, brother of Sir Allan, was the ancestor of the Earls of Athole, Buchan, and Traquair.<sup>1</sup>

The Earls and Countesses of Monteith in 1246 were the ancestors of whom Countess Margaret carried the earldom to her husband, Robert, Duke of Albany, son of King Robert II.

The coat of arms of the Abernethies was: Or, a lion rampant gules, armed and langued azure, debruised of a ribbon sable for Abernethy.

Sir Hugh of Abernethy was the ancestor of the Dukes of Hamilton, the Earls of Crawford, the Earls of Rothes, and the Frasers of Saltoun.

John Pitcairne of Pitcairn, of that Ilk, first laird of Innernethy, 1250, had the lands granted to him by his kinsman, Sir Hugh de Abernethy, in 1250.

Piers de Pitcarn, second lord of Pitcarn and Innernethy, *ante* 1292-1297, is mentioned in the Ragman's Roll as swearing fealty to Edward I., his name occurring in the list of nobles who had to make submission to Edward I.<sup>2</sup>

John, Ranulf, Duncan, and Robert de Pitcarn, his sons, are mentioned as owning horses, in a list made at Perth on the 5th of July 1312:—

*Inter alios:—*

John of Petcarn "his" black horse with star . . .	£8
Ranulf de Petcarn "his" brown horse . . .	100/
Duncan de Petcarn "his" black horse . . .	10 merks.
Robert de Petcarn's dapple-grey horse . . .	£10 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Sir Robert Douglas's Peerage.

<sup>2</sup> Charter in the Reg. of the Great Seal of Scotland, 1296.

<sup>3</sup> Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland in H.M. Public Record Office, London.



This is all that is known of the first Pitcarns mentioned in history.

John de Petcarn of that Ilk was third lord of Pitcairn, *ante* 5th July 1312.

Walter de Petcarne of that Ilk, fourth lord of Petcarne and Innerneathy, *ante* 1368, became the owner of the lands of Moneyethyn in the reign of David II. The charter runs as follows:—

“Charter by David II., King of Scots, confirming the charter by which Duncan Norri granted to Walter de Petcarn all his lands of Moneyethyn in the Barony thereof and Sherifffdom of Kyncardyn excepting the Hall, Garden, Orchard, one barn, with 1 acre of land lying nearest to the east part, reserved for the habitation of the said Duncan. Dated at Perth, 15th December 1368.”<sup>1</sup>

Thomas de Petcarne succeeded as fifth laird of Innerneathy and Pitcairn, *ante* 1415.

There is a notarial instrument which mentions him, by which “Alexander de Seaton, at St Andrews, is this day nominated overseer or agent of the powerful nobleman, Lord and Ruler, Thomas de Petcarne, domine, who promises to employ him as military secretary.

“The deed is drawn up at the Castle

“The above charter of Alexander III. is in the Church of the Great St Thomas the martyr of Aberbrothock, 5th Oct. 1415.”

*Copy of Charter.*

Notarial Instrument by which Alexander de Seton Scutifer Sancte Andree diiv nomine procuratorio nobilis viri et potentis Thome de Petcarn domine ejusdem exhibuit et presentant mihi Notario infra scripto quandam Castam, &c. (The above charter of Alexander III. is also) In Ecclesia magna Sancti Thome Martinis de Aberbrothock 5 Oct. 1415.

Et Ego Johannes Arthur, &c.<sup>2</sup>

Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk, sixth lord of Pitcarne and Innerneathy, 1420, married Mariota de Taillefer, and exe-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. i. No. 206. Robertson's Index of Missing Charters, 35, 22.

<sup>2</sup> Lent by the Rev. David Lee Pitcairn.

cuted a deed in her favour of certain lands in 1420. Confirmed by the king at Stirling, 1450.<sup>1</sup>

Henry Petcarne had one son, Henry, who succeeded as seventh laird of Petcarne.

The second Henry de Pitcarne of that Ilk, seventh lord of Petcarne and Innerneathy, succeeded his father Henry, who resigned his lands in his favour before his death. The charter by James I., King of Scots, is as follows :—

To Henry de Petcarne, younger of the lands of Petcarne in the Sheriffdom of Fyff, which were resigned by Henry de Petcarne his father : To be holden to the said Henry Petcarne younger, and his heirs in fee, reserving the dowry of the said lands to Mariota Taillefer, his wife, and also reserving the freehold of the same to the said Henry the elder for his lifetime.

Dated at Edynburgh, 22nd January 1426.<sup>2</sup>

Henry, seventh lord of Pitcairn and Innerneathy, was succeeded by his son, Alexander Pitcairn of that Ilk and Innerneathy, eighth laird, whose eldest son, George, succeeded him in the family estate of Pitcairn as ninth laird of Pitcairn. To James, his second son, he left Innerneathy in 1454. James was the ancestor of the branch of the Innerneathy Pitcairns. (See Innerneathy Branch.)

Alexander resigned his lands of Innerneathy by a charter dated March 6, 1453, in which Alexander de Petkarne of that Ilk constitutes a certain David Brone, a citizen of St Andrews, and John Cluny, a husbandman of Rhynd, his procurators, for resigning in the hands of George, Earl of Angus, Lord of Abernethy, his whole land of Innerneathy, with the pertinents, in the lordship of Abernethy and shire of Perth. Evidently to be returned to his son James, and Alice his wife, as stated in the following charter :—

Charter granted by Georgius Comes Angusic, to "Jacobus de Pettcarne et Alicie Sponse sue," by which he granted and confirmed the "terras de Innerneathy cum pertinentis jacen infra dominium nostrum de Abirnethy infra vice comitatus de Stratherne quas

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvi. No. 31.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. ii. No. 68.

terras de Alexander de Pettcarne mediante suo procuratore per furtem et baculum in manibus nostris sursum readidit.

"Apud Sanctum Andriam, 1 May 1454."<sup>1</sup>

*Translation.*

Charter by George, Count of Angus, to James of Petkarne and Alicia his wife, by which he granted and confirmed to them the lands of Innernethy with its belongings, lying under our lordship of Abernethy in the county of Perth, which lands were procured for us by Alexander de Petkarne by furtem and baculum in our hands as above related, at St Andrews, 1st May 1454.

George Pitcairn of Pitcairn and Airdree succeeded his father as ninth laird. He is mentioned in an old register of Dunfermline among a list of names, dated 14th June 1466, as helping to clear the Marches of Gaittmilk, belonging to the "Abbott of Dunfermling, from the lands of Ardmuty, belonging to David Ardmuty."

"There was a Perambulation of the said Marches by a brief of the Chancery of our Sovereign Lord King James III."

In the Assize of the Perambulation were mentioned the names of George Pitcairn of that Ilk and twenty-seven others.

George had three sons—(1) Henry, who succeeded as tenth laird; (2) Thomas, who had the lands of Pitcairn in Strathearn, subsequently sold them and went to Freuchy; (3) John, a notary public.

Thomas, the second son, was owner of Pettcarne in Strathearn, which he resigned to Lord Methven. The charter was in the reign of James III., and is as follows:—

Confirmation by King James III. of a Charter by William de Ruthven of that ilk, to David Guthre of Kincaldrum, and Janet his wife, of the lands of Petkarne (Pitcairns, Dunning), with the superi-

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<sup>1</sup> The original charter is in the possession of Sir William Fraser's trustees, and the above note is published in his 'History of the Family of Douglas,' in 4 vols.

ority thereof, in the barony of Ruthven and sheriffdom of Perth, which were resigned by Thomas de Petkarne.

Dated at Edinburgh, 24th May 1465. Confirmed, 22nd June 1465.

In the account of the Lordship of Methven, rendered at Edinburgh, 21st July 1455,<sup>1</sup> there is the charge of 16s. 8d. of the annual rent of the land of Pitcarne, of the same year. In 1464 there is an annual rent of 16s. 8d. paid to the King out of Pitcarne for two terms of the year. This appears yearly in the record until 1467 at least, and the same due is entered in 1476, and on to 1480. In 1456 sasine is given to Thomas Cromby of the lands of ester third of the lands of Petkarne in the Stewartry of Strathearne, on the 21st October,<sup>2</sup> so that Thomas de Pitcarne must have sold or leased more of the land to Mr Cromby. Thomas Pitcarne seems to have left Pitcarne after this, as in 1485 he is mentioned in the Exchequer Rolls as being tenant of  $\frac{3}{16}$ th parts of the lands of Freuchy in the Quarter of Falkland, Fife. In 1492 sasine is given to Janet Watson, Marion Gilchriste, and Catherine Spens respectively of the lands of Pitcarne, also to Archibald Cromby. (They were connections by marriage of the Pitcairns.)

John de Pitcarne, third son of George de Pitcarne, ninth laird of Pitcarne of that Ilk and Airdree, became a notary public, and lived at Kincardine on the Pitcarne lands.

The accounts of the Sheriff of Kincardine are rendered by John of Pitcarne, at Edinburgh, 24th Sept. 1456.<sup>3</sup> He was also a witness to a charter of lands in Kincardine in 1442 on the 28th of May,<sup>4</sup> and at Fouthar, Forfarshire, 14th January 1493.<sup>5</sup>

#### TENTH LORD OF PITCAIRN.

Henry Pitcarne succeeded as tenth laird of the House of Pitcarne, *ante* 1456. In the accounts of William Moray of Gask, the sum of £13, 6s. 8d. is put down as the relief

<sup>1</sup> Exchequer Rolls.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Copied from the Exchequer Rolls.

<sup>4</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ii. No. 128.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., lib. iv. No. 49.



of the half of the Barony of Drumgy due to the King by sasine, given to Henry of Pitcarne of the same lands, October 1456. Drumgy is mentioned in the records of Edward I. as then belonging to John of Stirling.

Henry Pitcarne married, in 1460, Elizabeth Ramsay, an heiress, and it is through this marriage that the black eagle of the Ramsays is quartered with the arms of the Pitcairns of Pitcairn and Forthar.<sup>1</sup>

In 1480 Henry de Pitcarne has sasine of the lands of Forthar-Ramsay, and in 1481 he has sasine again of the lands of Drumgy, Perthshire. "In the accounts of the lordship of Methven of 1486 there is a note by the comptor, that an annual rent of 6s. 8d. is not entered because he could not find such a place as Pitcarne within his lordship this year, or in the accounts of the two years preceding. The rent is however charged in 1488 and subsequent years to 1495, and on to 1500." There is a charter by

Andrew Muncur of that Ilk to Henry of Petkarne, of the 4th part of the lands of Forthir Ramsay, minus the 15th part. Dated at Cupar Fife, 18th July 1474.<sup>2</sup>

On the 9th June 1481 there is an instrument of sasine or precept of James III., King of Scots, for infetting Henry de Pitcarne as heir of his father, George Pitcarne, with a 5th part, and 30th part of the lands of Colernay in the shire of Fife.<sup>3</sup>

There was another sasine or precept by the King to Henry Pitcarne of the lands of Kilmaron, dated 4th June 1481.<sup>4</sup>

Henry de Pitcarne was now the possessor of many lands. He owned Pitcarne in Fife, the Barony of Drumgy, and part of the lands of Cullerny and Forthir-Ramsay. His sons were Henry Pitcarne, who succeeded him; Patrick Pitcarne; and David, Archdeacon of Brechin. The only mention of Mr Patrick Pitcarne is his being witness to a charter at Cairny-Barclay on Jan. 8, 1496.<sup>5</sup>

Pitcarne now begins to be spelt Pitcairne, or Pitcairn in some deeds.

<sup>1</sup> Stodart's Scottish Arms, vol. ii. p. 232.

<sup>2</sup> Laing Charters, No. 919, box 20.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., No. 1833, box 47.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., No. 506, box 45.

<sup>5</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. No. 244.





OLD HOUSE OF FORTHAR.

Sketch by Constance Picairn.



Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk had four daughters—namely, (1) Elizabeth, who married John Ramsay of Downfield after her father's death. (2) Margaret, married to David Murray of Ochertyre. (3) Isobelle, married to Sir Patrick Lindsay of Kirkforthar, who afterwards became fourth Lord Lindsay of the Byres<sup>1</sup>; (4) Catherine, who married John Ballingall of Riggis.

Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Henry, ninth Lord of Pitcarne, made a good match, and eventually brought the lands of Durnfield or Downfield into the Pitcairn family through her marriage with a Ramsay.

The Ramsays were one of the oldest and most distinguished of the Fifeshire families. There is a very interesting old deed stating that

an honourable man, Laurence Ramsay of Durnfield, before witnesses, besought Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk to observe and to fulfil the contract made betwixt them for a marriage between John Ramsay, son and apparent heir of the said Laurence Ramsay, and Elizabeth Pitcarne, sister of the said Henry, confessing that he [Laurence] long considered that this marriage should be solemnised, and gave thanks that he would see them married before he died. Done in the principal hall of the Place of Downfield on the 6th April 1495. The notary being John Pitcarne, Presbyter of the diocese of St Andrews.<sup>2</sup>

The marriage took place, and there is another deed about another member of the family as follows:—

Instrument narrating that, on the 22nd August 1495, there compeared at Pitcarne, Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk on the one side, and Christian Ramsay, daughter of the late John Ramsay of Coluthy, on the other part, who required the said Henry to infest her in his 20-merk land of Pitcarne, lying in the barony of Leslie and sheriffdom of Fife, according to the tenor of his charter of the said Christian. He answered that he be willing to do so, if she would give him a letter of reversion, conform to the usage of Scotland, for redeeming the lands, in terms of indenture, between the said Henry and Janet Kinloch, whereby it is agreed that when a dispensation sought by both parties from the

<sup>1</sup> Lord Lindsay died 1526. Douglas's *Baronage*, vol. i. p. 384.

<sup>2</sup> Laing Charters, No. 557, box 16.

Court of Rome anent the kinship befallen the said Henry and Christian should arrive, that the latter shall, when required, resign the lands of the former. She agreed to give the reversion asked for. Dated 1495.<sup>1</sup>

Charter by Mr David Petcarne, Archdeacon of Brechin, to his nephew, James Ramsay, son and heir of the late John Ramsay of Downfield, of the half of the lands of Downfield in the shire of Fife. Dated 2nd Jan. 1515. Instrument of seizin following thereon, dated 19th Jan. 1514-15.

Thomas Pitcairn is a witness.<sup>2</sup>

Margaret, second daughter of Henry, tenth lord of Pitcarne and Forthar, married David Murray of Ochertyre, whose family was one of the noblest in Scotland.<sup>3</sup> "Here lies Patrick Moray of Dullarie, son of David Moray of Tullibardin, died 1476. Catherina Balfour, his wife, died 1480. David, their son, died 1508; and Margareta Pitcarne, his wife, died 1520." This is a translation of the inscription on the tombstones pertaining to the House of Ochertyre, in the church of Monivaird.

In an entry in the Murray Book is written:—

David married Margaret Pitcarne, daughter to the laird of Forfour in Fife, and by her had three sons, to wit, Patrick, Anthony, and Mitchell. Anthony got a lease of the lands of Dollarie, and was the first of that familie. Mitchel got the lease of the lands of Coig.<sup>4</sup>

In the family mausoleum, built on the site of Monivaird church, there is a tablet placed by the grandfather of Sir Patrick Keith Murray, the present proprietor, giving all details apparently known to him:—

	Issue.	Death.	Buried.
David Moray	3 males	1508	Monivaird.
Margaret, wife of David Moray, daughter of Henry Pitcairne of Pitcairne, died 1520, buried—Monivaird.			

No other details are given, and the spaces for them are left blank.

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 503, box 15.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., No. 922, box 26.

<sup>3</sup> Douglas's Baronage, vol. i. p. 145.

<sup>4</sup> The Murray Book, written about 200 years ago.

Patrick, killed at Flodden 1513, was the eldest son of David and Margaret Moray of Ochtertyre.

(I am indebted to the kind courtesy of Sir Patrick Keith Murray of Ochtertyre for these particulars of his Family.)

The church of Monivaird was the scene of the following tragedy, related by Scott in his introduction to 'The Legend of Montrose':—

"During the reign of James IV. a great feud between the powerful families of Drummond and Murray divided Perthshire. The former, being the most numerous and powerful, cooped up eight score of the Murrays in the kirk of Monivaird, and set fire to it. The wives and children of the ill-fated men, who had also found shelter in the church, perished by the same conflagration."<sup>1</sup>

In the 'History of Scotland' by Pitscottie the following mention is made of the incident: "In the meantime the Drummonds burnt the kirk of Monivaird, wherein were six score Morays with their wives and children, and few escaped therefrom, but were all either burnt or slain, except one David Moray, which fact the king punished condignly thereafter, for he headed many of the principal actors thereof at Stirling."<sup>2</sup>

Charter by James IV., King of Scots, to Margaret Petcarne, wife of the late David Murray, in liferent, and to her son Patrick Murray and his heirs-male in fee, of the lands of Uchtertyre and Correglen, in the lordship and stewartry of Stratherne and sherriffdom of Perth. Dated at Edinburgh, 4th Feb. 1509-10.<sup>3</sup>

Ochtertyre is still the seat of the Keith Murray family. It is two miles from Crieff, and a most lovely spot. The modern mausoleum is near the Granite Lodge on the east, and it occupies the site of the old parish church. The vale of the river Turret to the north of Ochtertyre exhibits a variety of romantic scenery which has been rendered classical by the pen of Burns. While on a visit to Sir William Murray at Ochtertyre he wrote the beautiful song, "Blithe, blithe and merry was she," in honour of Miss

<sup>1</sup> Sir Walter Scott.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Lindsay of Pitscottie, p. 249.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., xvi. 95.



Euphemia Murray of Lintrose, a lady whose beauty had acquired for her the title of "The Flower of Strathmore." There was a second Murray-Pitcairn connection when William, sixth of Ochtertyre, married Bethia (daughter of Sir William Murray of Letterbannachty<sup>1</sup> and Barbara Pitcairn his wife), and was father of Patrick, seventh of Ochtertyre, who married Mary, only daughter of Sir William Moray of Abercairney, Knight. Their eldest son, Sir William Murray, first baronet of Ochtertyre, was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, with remainder to his heirs-male, 7th June 1763. Sir Patrick Murray, his son, was second baronet; Sir William Murray, third baronet; he married in 1706 Catherine Fraser, third daughter of Hugh, ninth Lord Lovat. His second daughter, Catherine, married Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, Baronet.

<sup>1</sup> William Murray of Letterbannachty, son of Sir Andrew Murray of Balvaird. He and his wife Barbara were ancestors of Lord Mansfield.

## CHAPTER III.

## THE LINDSAYS OF THE BYRES.

ISABELLE, daughter of Henry Pitcarne, laird of Pitcarne and Forthar, married Patrick, fourth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, before 1480.

The Lindsays were very distinguished in history, and as there were several Lindsay-Pitcairn marriages, a short account of the family is here given.

Lord Patrick's eldest brother David was second Lord Lindsay of the Byres. He married Janet, daughter and heir of Walter Ramsay of Pitcoure. In the reign of James III., when his son and nobles rose in rebellion, he brought to King James's standard 1000 horse and 3000 foot before the battle of Sauchieburn in 1488.

Lord Lindsay was very celebrated; he was a staunch supporter of James III., and lent him the grey horse, the account of which is so quaintly described in the 'History of Scotland' by Robert Lindsay of Pitscottie.

After the king's death his son was crowned as James IV., and the insurgent nobles being envious of Lord Lindsay as having been on the side of the late king, he was brought to trial before the king and Council at the Tolbooth, Edinburgh, and accused of treason. He in an ill-advised speech irritated his enemies instead of calming them. Mr Patrick Lindsay (afterwards fourth Lord Lindsay of the Byres and husband of Isabelle Pitcarne), brother-german to the Lord Lindsay, hearing him, stamped his foot upon his brother's, to let him understand to be careful in what he said.

But this stamp of Mr Patrick's was so heavy upon his brother's foot, who had a sore toe which was painful to him, he looked to him, and said: "You were over-peirt to stamp upon my foot; were you out of the King's presence, I would overtake you on the mouth."

Mr Patrick, hearing the vain words of his brother, went on his knees before the King and the Justices, and made his petition to them in this manner: "Sir, if it will please your Grace, and your honourable counsel, I desire of your Grace for his cause, that is Judge of all, that your Grace will give me leave this day to speak for my brother, for I see there is no man of law that dare speak for him for fear of your Grace, though he and I have not been at one this many years, yet my heart may not suffer me to see the native house, whereof I am descendit, to perish." So the king and the Justices gave him leave to speak for his brother, which he proceeded to do, and made such an able defence that in the end he got him pardoned, and Lord Lindsay was so blyth at his brother's sayings, that he burst forth, saying to him, "Verily, brother, you have fine pyot words; I would not have trowed by St Amarie that you had such words," and said to him, "for that day's labour he should have the Mains of Kirkforthar."

For this the King was displeased at him, and said to Mr Patrick, "he should sit where he should not see his feet for one year," and immediately caused to take him to Bute and put him in prison, where he remained for the space of one year.<sup>1</sup>

David was succeeded by his brother John, third Lord Lindsay of the Byres, who married Mariota, daughter of Sir William Baillie of Lamington, afterwards wife of Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven. John died without issue, 25th Dec. 1496.

Patrick Lindsay had the charter of Kirk Forthar in 1438, according to Douglas, and succeeded to the lands of Byres, which Lord John granted to him and his wife Isabella on the 28th Oct. 1497. This Lord Lindsay of the Byres had a grant of the sherifffdom of Fife to himself,<sup>2</sup> his son and grandson, and died in 1526, and left issue by his wife Isabella, daughter of Henry Pitcarne of Forthar, John (Sir) of Pitcruvie, Master of Lindsay, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Lundin of Balgonie, and died leaving issue, (1) John (Sir), succeeded his grandfather as fifth

<sup>1</sup> Pitscottie's History of Scotland.

<sup>2</sup> Act. Parl. Scot., ii. 605.

Lord Lindsay of Byres; (2) Patrick, who died early; (3) David of Kirkforthar, who died at a great age in 1592.

During the fourth Lord Lindsay's life the terrible battle of Flodden Field took place, in which the flower of the Scottish nobility fell. James IV. had the mysterious vision at Linlithgow warning him against going to battle, but it was of no avail. I give it here, as it is most curious and interesting, and is graphically told in the 'History of Scotland' by Lindsay of Pitscottie:—

At this time the King came to Linlithgow, where he was at the counsel very sad and dolorous, making his prayers to God, to send him a good success in his voyage.

And there came a man clad in a blue gown belted about him with a roll of linen, and a pair of bottikins on his feet, and all other things conform thereto. But he had nothing on his head but white hair to his shoulders and bald before. He seemed to be a man of fifty years, and came fast forward, crying among the lords, and specially for the King, saying that he desired to speak with him, while at the last he came to the desk where the King was at his prayers. But when he saw the King he gave him no salutation, but leaned him down upon the desk, and said: "Sir King, my mother has sent me to thee desiring thee not to go where thou are purposed, which if thou do, thou shall not fare well in thy journey, nor none that is with thee. Further, she forbad thee, not to mell nor use the counsels of women, which if thou do, thou will be confoundit and brought to shame."

When this man had spoken the words to the King, the evensong was near done, and the King paused on the words, studying to give him an answer.

But in the meantime, before the King's eyes, and in presence of the whole lords that were about him for the time, this man vanished away, and could be no more seen. I heard Sir David Lindsay, lyon-herald, and John Inglis the Marshall, who were at that time young men, and special servants to the King's Grace, thought to have taken this man, but they could not, that they might have speired further tidings of him, but they could not touch him.<sup>1</sup>

The king disregarded the wishes of his nobles and all their counsels, and the end was the fatal battle of Flodden

<sup>1</sup> Pitscottie's Hist. of Scotland, vol. i. p. 275.



Field, in which he and the flower of the Scottish nobility were slain in 1513.

Before the battle the nobles went to the Council and charged Lord Patrick Lindsay to be Chancellour, and first voter of the Council, because he was of greatest age and had best experience amongst them of such affairs.

So they enquired of him if the King should give battle at that time to England or not. The Lord Lindsay being ripely advised in this matter, answered: "My lords, you desire my opinion, if the King shall give battle to England or not? My lords, I will give you a similitude, desiring you to know my mind by the same; for I compare your lordships to an honest merchant, that would in his voyage go to dice with a common hazarder, and there to jeopardise in his playing a rose noble, at one cast, against a glyed halfpenny, which if this merchant wins, it will be accounted little or small, but if he tynes [loses] he tynes his honour with that piece of gold, which is of far greater value.

"So, my lords, you may understand by this, that ye will be called the merchant, and your King the rose noble, and England the common hazarder who has nothing to jeopardise but one halfpenny, in comparison of our noble King, and an old crooked carle in a chariot.

"Wherefore I think, my lords, if England respects an old crooked carl in a chariot, although they lose him they lose but little, but if we hazard our noble prince at this time, and happen to lose him, we will be called evil merchants, and far worse counsellors of his Majesty; for if we lose him we lose the whole realm of Scotland together with the nobility thereof, for none are bidden with us at this tyme but nobles and gentlemen. So I contend it better to cause the King to remove a number of his lords with him, whom he thinks most expedient to take the matter in hand, and hazard themselves for the King's pleasure and their own honour, and the common weal of the country at this time, and if your lordships will conclude in this manner I hold it best, in my opinion." When the Lord Lindsay had voted in this manner, the whole lords consented to his conclusion, and thereto nominated certain lords to take the battle in hand, . . . these to be the rulers of the King's host and to fight against England; and the King to pass with certain of his nobility, a little from the army, where he might see the valiant acts on both sides.

This being concluded with the whole lords, the King being near hand by, burst forth, unhappily, saying, "My lords, I shall fight this day with England, and ye had all sworn the contrary, yea,



although ye would leave me and flee and shame yourselves, ye shall not shame me as ye devise; and as to Lord Patrick Lindsay, that has given the first vote, I avow to God I shall never see Scotland sooner, nor I shall cause hang him over his own 'yett.'"

Thus the lords were astonished at the King's answer, seeing him in a fury, were fain to satisfy his pleasure and serve him in all things as he commandit.<sup>1</sup>

The battle of Flodden Field was therefore fought in 1513, and many of the Pitcairns and their connections were slain in this disastrous fight. Andrew Pitcarne and seven of his sons were killed; he left a widow and one posthumous son born after the death of his father. The tradition is that his enemies seized his lands after his death, but that the widow appealed to the king, James V., who restored the lands to the rightful heir. Isabella Pitcarne, Lady Lindsay, lost her son David of Kirkforthar; Margaret Pitcarne, David Moray's wife, lost her eldest son Patrick; and Elizabeth Pitcarne, Lady Ramsay, lost her son Henry, — so the three daughters of Henry Pitcarne, of Pitcarne and Forthar, had each to bear a crushing sorrow.

Isabella, Lady Lindsay, had two charters in her favour.

#### *First Charter.*

I. Charter by Patrick, Lord Lindsay of the Byres, to John Lindsay of Pitcruvy, Knight, his eldest son, and apparent heir of the lordship and barony of the Byres, &c., reserving to himself (the said lord) his freehold, and a reasonable 3rd part to Lady Isabella Pitcairne his spouse. Dated 29th April 1524. Witness, Mr David Pitcairn, Archdean of Brechin, &c. Confirmed by the King, 30th May 1524, at Strowther.<sup>2</sup>

David Pitcarne, Archdeacon of Brechin, was Lady Lindsay's brother, and Strowther was the old family place of the Lindsays. Lord Lindsay was at the battle of Flodden in 1513. He was one of the guardians appointed afterwards to take care of the young king, James V. He died in the year 1526.

<sup>1</sup> Pitcottie's Hist. of Scotland, vol. i. p. 275.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlv. No. 364.

*Second Charter to Lady Lindsay by her grandson John, sixth Lord Lindsay of Byres.*

754. Apud Edinburgh, 27th Feb. 1528. Rex confirmavit cartam Johannis dom. Lyndesay de Byris qua concessit Elizabeth Petcarne domine Lyndesay airi sue, in vitatum redditum—tertiam partem terrarem de Pitlessie, et molendinum ejusdem, extendu at 20 marcas firme, vic Fyff, pro renunciacione juris ejus ad terras de Sauchar Lindsay ein partinem pro ejus vita. Tenend de rege. Test. Wil. Scot de Inverteil milite. Will Lyndesay de Piotstoun, &c.<sup>1</sup>

William Lindsay of Piotstoun was Lady Lindsay's son.

*Translation.*

2. Charter by John, Lord Lindsay of the Byres, to Elizabeth (or Isabella) Pitcairne, Lady Lindsay, his grandmother, in liferent of the 3rd part of Pitlessie in the shire of Fife. Dated at Edinburgh 27th February 1528-29. Confirmed by the king, 2nd March, same year.<sup>2</sup>

Beside the above-mentioned land there were the mills of Pitlessie, extending to 20 merks of land in Fife; and Lady Lindsay renounces her right to the lands of Sauchar Lindsay and the pertinents for her life. Held of the king. Witnesses, Will Scott of Inverteil, soldier, Will Lindsay of Piotstoun, &c.

Lord and Lady Lindsay had three sons and four daughters.

1. Sir John Lindsay, who married Elizabeth Lundey about 1498, and died before his father, 1525.

2. Sir William, the second son, married Isobelle Logan, and became the ancestor of the Lindsays of Pietstone.

3. David, third son, was killed at Flodden 1513 and left no children.

One daughter married Lord Innermeath; and another, Isobelle, married Sir William Scott of Balwearie, a descendant of William Scott of Balwearie, to whom

John (abbot), without any surname, grants a charter of the lands of Balweary, in the vice-royalty of Fife (near Kirkcaldy), on the 13th June 1393, for payment of a small sum at the feasts of Pentecost and St Martins. John, with the surname De Torry,

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. No. 269.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

appears as a witness in 1399 to a charter of William de Scott de Balwearie, granting to his cousin Philip of Halket, laird of Ballingall, a third part of the lands of Pitferraine, &c.

Henry Pitcarne of Drongy and Pitcarne is witness to a charter by Sir William Scott of Balwearie, Knight, to the church of St Salvador, in the city of St Andrews, on the 11th September 1514. Confirmed by the King, James V.<sup>1</sup>

Sir William Scott of Balwearie had the lands of Strathmiglo, including with others Eastern and Western Pitlour. These lands belonged first to the Crown, but in 1160 Malcolm IV. granted them to Duncan, sixth Earl of Fife, on the marriage of that nobleman with Ada, the king's niece. They remained with the Earls of Fife until 1424, although Sibbald says the lands were held under the Earls of Fife by the Scotts of Balwearie from about 1251. In the Exchequer Rolls, 14, p. 80, it is said: "Sir William Scott of Balwearie, Knight, was counsellour of James IV., King of Scottes, and as said, a gentilman well learnyd." He accompanied James IV. to Flodden in 1513, and had to sell some of his lands as ransom, and they were eventually bought from Sir James Scott by a Pitcarne of Pitcarne, though a Pitcarne had some of the Pitlour lands as far back as 1504, which is described later, in the account of the Pitlour branch of the Pitcarne family.

Killerny Castle, which belonged to the Scots of Balwearie, is thus described:—

On the eminence above the picturesque gorge of Saline Dean, at the south-west extremity of Saline Hill, are the ruins of Killerny Castle, which belongs, with the neighbouring property, to Aytoun of Inchdairnie. In former days it seems to have been possessed by the Scotts of Balwearie, of whom was Sir Michael Scott, the renowned knight and wizard.

Indeed Killerny Castle was known formerly as the Castle of Balwearie. The ruins now consist only of the fragments of two towers, of which the southern is said to be more recent, and to have borne the date of 1592.

There used to be connected with it a large vaulted apartment,

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xix. No. 56.

which has now disappeared. A strange legend is recorded of this part of the building regarding Lady Scott having commissioned a mason to erect it for her as a summer-house.

She refused to pay the stipulated cost, and the disappointed artist revenged himself by murdering her and her child. He was punished for the crime by being shut up in the tower, where he starved to death.<sup>1</sup>

John Lindsay, fifth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, Haddingtonshire, was the eldest son of Sir John, Master of Lindsay, styled Sir John Lindsay of Pitcruvie, Fife, by his wife Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir John Lundey, or Lundin, of Balgonie, Fife. He succeeded to the title on the death of his grandfather, Patrick, fourth Lord Lindsay, and in the same year was made Sheriff of Fife. He married Lady Helen Stewart, daughter of John, Earl of Atholl, 1556, and died in 1563.

Patrick, the second son of Sir John of Pitcruvie, had a charter of Kirk Forthar 1513, and was killed in 1536.

Sir John's third son, David, had Kirk Forthar; Janet, one daughter, married Sir David Murray of Balvaird, the ancestor of the Earl of Mansfield's family; and Isabelle, his other daughter, married Norman Leslie, Master of Rothes, who died 1554, and who was the leader of the party who assassinated Cardinal Beaton. He was the eldest son of George, fourth Earl of Rothes, by Margaret, only daughter of William, third Lord Crichton.

In the struggle between the Protestants and Romanists at the Reformation, the elder branch of the Lindsays espoused the Roman side, and were deeply implicated in the intrigues and plots of that party during the reigns of Mary and James VI. They were Royalists in the great civil war, and were ultimately involved in the ruin of the cause which they had embraced. The Byres branch of the Lindsays rose on the ruins of the old house, and succeeded them in the Crawford title. John, fifth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, was a zealous Protestant and a man of stern character. It was his son Patrick, sixth lord,

<sup>1</sup> Beveridge's *Between the Ochils and the Forth*.



"whose iron eye beheld fair Mary weep in vain," when he assisted in extracting from her the resignation of her crown at Lochleven. His grandson James, seventh Lord Lindsay, was "a man of great talent, supple, subtle, and ambitious," but a gallant soldier and an accomplished scholar. Earl John, his son, succeeded in obtaining the earldom of Crawford on the extinction of the elder branch, to the exclusion of the Balcarres family.<sup>1</sup> John, fifth Lord Lindsay, on the 27th of June 1532 was named an extraordinary Lord of Session. He was present at the death of James V. at Falkland in 1542, and after the arrest of Cardinal Beaton was one of the four "indifferent noblemen" to whom the custody of the infant Princess Mary was on 15th March 1543 committed by Parliament.<sup>2</sup> Although ultimately his sympathies were with the reformed party, the fifth Lord Lindsay, unlike his son, was not a vehement partisan. It was chiefly owing to his mediations that a battle was avoided at Cupar Muir on 13th June 1559 between the forces of the queen-regent and those of the lords of the Congregation.

On the adoption of a reformed Confession of Faith by Parliament in August 1560, Randolph records that "the old Lord of Lyndsay, as grave and godly man as ever I sawe, sayd, 'I have lived manie yeares; I am the oldeste in this companye of my sorte; now that yet hath pleased God to lett me see this day, . . . I will say with Simeon, Nunc dimittis.'"<sup>3</sup>

Lindsay died on the 17th December 1563. Randolph, writing to Cecil, states that Lindsay died within the last four days.<sup>4</sup>

During the lifetime of the fifth lord the estates of the family were considerably increased by grants under the Great Seal.<sup>5</sup> By his wife, Helen Stewart, a daughter of

<sup>1</sup> Conolly's *Eminent Men of Fife*, and Lee's *National Biography*.

<sup>2</sup> Act. Parl. Scot., ii. 415.

<sup>3</sup> Cal. State Papers, For. Ser., 1560-61, entry 434.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 1563, entry 1523.

<sup>5</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.



the Earl of Athole, he had three sons—Patrick, sixth lord; John, who died in France; Norman, ancestor of the Lindsays of Kilquhiss—and six daughters: Isabel, married to Norman Leslie; Catherine, to Thomas Myرتون of Cambo; Margaret, to David Beaton of Melgund, son of Cardinal Beaton; Janet, wife of, first, Henry, Master of Sinclair, and, secondly, of Sir George Douglas; Helen, wife of Thomas Fotheringham of Powrie; and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Kinnear of Kinnear.

Patrick Lindsay, sixth Lord Lindsay of the Byres (*d.* 1589), a prominent supporter of the Reformers, eldest son of John, fifth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, by Helen Stewart, daughter of John, third Earl of Athole, helped Kirkcaldy of Grange to keep the French in check in Fife. He was a staunch supporter of the Regent Murray. At the battle of Langside, after Mary's escape from Lochleven, he turned the tide of battle against her. He, with Robert Pitcairn his cousin, was one of the four commissioners appointed to accompany the Regent in September 1568 to conferences first held at York, and then adjourned to Westminster. Lord Lindsay was concerned in the Raid of Ruthven in 1582, and after the king's rescue at St Andrews fled with many others to England. On his return he took part in the Gowrie Conspiracy in 1584, and was committed to Tantallon Castle; but on the fall of Arran in November he was released.<sup>1</sup>

By his wife, Euphemia, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven and sister uterine of the Regent Murray, Patrick had a son James, seventh Lord Lindsay, and two daughters—Margaret, married to James, Master of Rothes, and Mauslie, wife of William Ballingall of Ballingall.

By his second wife, Euphemia Leslie, eldest daughter of Andrew, fifth Earl of Rothes, he had two sons—John, eighth lord, and Robert, ninth lord—and three daughters: Jean, married to Robert Lundey of Balgonie; Catherine, to John Lundey of Lundin; and Helen, wife of John,

<sup>1</sup> Conolly's *Eminent Men of Fife*, and Lee's *National Biography*.

second Lord Cranston. Lord Lindsay died 5th November 1601.

The Byres line of the Lindsays was broken in 1808, on the death of George, twenty-second Earl of Crawford, who was great-grandson of a Janet Pitcairn of Dreghorn.

The Pitcairn connections with the House of Lindsay are as follows:—

Patrick, fourth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, married, before 1480, Isabella, daughter of Henry Pitcarne of Pitcarne and Forthar, descended from John de Pitcarne, who had a grant of the lands of Innerneathy from Sir Hugh de Abernethy in 1250. The Lindsays were heirs of Sir Hugh, a Lindsay having married an heiress, daughter of Alexander de Abernethy, and granddaughter of Sir Hugh.

“Patrick, Lord Lindsay, and his wife Isabella Pitcarne were granted by John, third Lord Lindsay, the lands of Byres on the 28th Oct. 1497, which charter was confirmed in the Register of the Great Seal, Dec. 1508.<sup>1</sup> John also gave them other lands, 29th Sept. 1497. They had three sons.

“1. Their eldest son, Sir John Lindsay of Pitcruvie, married, 1498, Elizabeth Lundey, but he did not succeed to the title, having died before his father, in 1525.

“2. Sir William, their second son, married Isabel Logan. He was living in 1539. Sir William was called ‘of Piotstone,’ and was the ancestor of the Lindsays of Piotstone and Wormistone.”

After the death of the eighth Earl of Lindsay (seventeenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres) the title devolved upon the descendant of Sir William Lindsay of Pyetstone or Piotstone, Sir Henry Bethune Lindsay. He succeeded as ninth Earl of Lindsay and eighteenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres.

3. Patrick’s third son was David of Kirkforthar, who was killed at Flodden Field 1513, and left no children. Lord Patrick also had Isabel, who married Sir William

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by Mr W. Lindsay, K.C.

Scott of Balwearie, one married Lord Innermeath (Stewart), and two other daughters.

Lord Patrick Lindsay's grandson succeeded him as John, fifth Lord Lindsay of the Byres,—his father, Sir John Lindsay of Pitcruvie, having died previously.

John, the fifth lord, married Lady Helen Stewart in 1526, and died 1563. His descendants succeeded to the title, until the death of the sixth Earl of Lindsay, fifteenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, when the titles devolved upon David Lindsay of Kirkforthar, who succeeded as seventh Earl of Lindsay, sixteenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, sixth Viscount Garnock. He died May 1809. The honours then passed to the next male heir of the house of Kirkforthar.

Sir John Lindsay of Pitcruvie had three sons—John, the eldest, who succeeded as fifth Lord Lindsay; Patrick, who had a charter of Kirkforthar from his grandfather in 1514, died without issue in 1526. His brother David then succeeded to Kirkforthar, and was ancestor of the seventh and eighth Earls of Lindsay.

Sir John Lindsay's daughter, Janet, married Sir David Murray of Arngask and Balvaird in 1524. Their son, Sir William Murray of Letterbannachty, married Barbara, daughter of David Pitcairn, laird of Pitcairn and Forthar, in 1557. Sir William Murray's mother, Janet Lindsay, was granddaughter of Isabella Pitcarne, Lady Lindsay, and Barbara Pitcairn, Sir William's wife, was her great-niece.

John Lindsay of Kirkforthar, great-grandson of Patrick, fourth Lord Lindsay, and Isabella Pitcairn, married, first, Marjory Pitcairn before 1569. On the 30th May 1579 there was a grant to her of £6 yearly rent by Walter Gourlay. Marjory died before 1582, when John Lindsay married Isobel or Elizabeth Dury, widow of David Pitcairn, laird of Forthar. His son Patrick succeeded him to Kirkforthar, his father having died before 12th Nov. 1599. "On the 4th Dec. 1599 there was a contract between Patrick Lyndesay of Kirkforthar on the one part,

Isobell Dury, relict of John Lyndesay of Kirkforthar, Elspeth Pitcairn, her daughter, and Margaret, her oy [granddaughter], Isobell Dury taking burden for her other oyes, on the other part."

A discharge to Patrick Lyndesay in respect of goods of the late John Lindsay for certain considerations. Witnesses, David Lyndesay, brother german to Patrick Lyndesay; Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk (grandson of Isobel); Robert Pitcairn in Forthar (grandson of Isobel Lyndesay). This document indicates that Isobel was not the mother of Patrick; no doubt he was the son of Marjory Pitcairn, John Lyndesay's first wife.<sup>1</sup>

In the Great Seal Register, 4th Dec. 1583, there is "confirmation of a charter by Andrew Kinninmonth, portioner of that Ilk, in full, of a marriage-contract between him on the one part and John Lindsay, apparent of Kirkforthar, taking burden for Isabella Durie, his wife, and Elizabeth or Elspeth Pitcairn, daughter of Isabella, dated at Craighall 1st Feb. 1582. The charter is dated 23rd March, and Elizabeth Pitcairn was then wife of Andrew Kinninmonth."

Patrick Lindsay succeeded his father John in Kirkforthar. His son David came into Kirkforthar on his father's death in 1632, and was seized therein with his wife, Jean Pitcairn.

Jean, or Janet, Pitcairn was either cousin or sister of William Pitcairn, laird of Forthar and Pitcairn. The Pitcairns' and Lindsays' estates were very near each other, and they were great friends. David Lindsay was witness at the baptism of several of William Pitcairn's children.

The Lindsay's daughter Margaret married William Costorphine at Kirkforthar, and in Dec. 1660 her father gave her part of Kingsbarns for a marriage portion.

There was another Pitcairn connection with the Lindsays later on, when Janet Pitcairn, daughter of David Pitcairn of Dreghorn, and widow of William Walwood of Touch, married George Home of Kello, who afterwards bought Dreghorn Castle from his brother-in-law, Patrick

<sup>1</sup> Printed in the minutes of evidence of the Lindsay Peerage Claim, p. 96.



Pitcairn. Her daughter, Mary or Marjory Home, married Patrick Lindsay, Viscount Garnock, on the 19th of April 1720, and their son was George, twenty-first Earl of Crawford, fourth Viscount Garnock, fourteenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres. He died in 1781, leaving issue three daughters and one son, George, twenty-second Earl of Crawford and fifteenth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, who died *sine prole* 1808.

The present Earl of Lindsay (eleventh Earl) is David Clark Bethune, born 1832, married Emily Marian, daughter of Robert Crosse, 1866. His heir is Viscount Garnock.



## CHAPTER IV.

HENRY PITCAIRN, ELEVENTH LORD OF PITCAIRN  
AND FORTHAR.

HENRY, eleventh lord of Pitcarne and Forthar, succeeded his father in 1489, and in the following charters he was formally infefted in the lands of Cullerny or Colldirney. He also was owner of Drongie or Drongy, and signed deeds as "de Forthir," and again in 1508.

In the Family History of the Leslie, by Colonel Charles Leslie,<sup>1</sup> "George, Earl of Rothes, granted a precept, ordering his bailie to give sasine to Henry Pitcarne of Forthar-Ramsay of certain parts of the lands of Colldirney, lying within the barony of Ballinbreich, June 4, 1489."

Instrument of seizing, proceeding on precept by George, Earl of Rothes, infefting Henry Pitcarne, son and heir of the late Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk, in the lands of Cullerny, so far as his father possessed them. Dated June 4, 1489.<sup>2</sup>

He witnessed a charter at Ballindone in Fife on March 28, 1498,<sup>3</sup> and in 1503 there is

a remission under the Great Seal of King James IV. to Henry Pitcarne for act and part and the oppression done to Thomas Butlour of Ramgallie by destroying his corn on the 10th Dec. of that year.<sup>4</sup>

Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk married Egidia Mailville or

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 2630, box 67.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., No. 931, box 25.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., No. 14, box 441.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., No. 504, box 15.

Melville, and her name is mentioned on the 14th July 1504, in a confirmation by James IV., King of Scots, of a

charter granted by Andrew Furny of Maistown to Henry Pitcarne of Drungy and Egidia (Giles or Grizzell Mailville his wife), of two crofts near the lands of the Abbey of Balmerinock, and one croft with malt-kiln and barn in the vill. of Strathmiglo in the shire of Fife. To be holden to the said Henry and Egidia in conjunct fee and liferent, and to the heirs procreated between them in fee, from the said Andrew and of the King. Dated at Petlour 21st July 1504 Confirmed at Stirling on 21st August 1505.<sup>1</sup>

Grizzell Mailville's family was of ancient descent, and was called Leslie Melville or Mailville. Leslie Melville or Mailville, the name of this noble house, is chief of the ancient Scottish family of Melville, which is derived (it is stated) from a person of Anglo-Norman lineage called Male. This person settled under David I. upon some lands in the county of Edinburgh, which he called Male-ville, and his descendants assumed that designation as a surname. Galfred de Melville, the first of the family, lived in the reigns of David I., Malcolm, and William the Lion. He was the first Justiciary of Scotland on record.

From his third son, Walter, descended Sir John Melville of Raith, who had charters jointly with his wife, Helen Napier, of the king's lands of Murdocarney in Fife, dated the 23rd May 1536 and 23rd October 1542. He enjoyed the confidence of James V., who appointed him Master-General of the Ordnance, and Captain-General of the Castle of Dunbar, having previously knighted him. Sir John, in the minority of Queen Mary, was, however, convicted of treason without any cause, and executed towards the end of 1549. Knox calls him laird of Raith.

In 1510, on the 11th Feb., there is a charter by the King which states—

The King [James IV.] concedes to Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk and his heirs three quarters of the lands of Forthar-Ramsay, with parts and appendages. 32 parts of the same in Fife, of which are

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<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. No. 117.

indeed one at least, perhaps two quarters; that is to say, 31 parts, bought by the same Henry personally, and one quarter 31 parts bought by David Barclay of Cullerny, and inspected by them, and which the King incorporated in one freehold, 11th Feb. 1510.<sup>1</sup>

This was resigned by him and David Barclay on the 14th Feb. 1510-11, and this precept under the quarter seal of King James IV. was directed to

John Lindsay of Pitcruvy, Knight, John Seton of Lathrisk, Robert Pitcarne, and others, for infefting Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk in three quarters of the lands of Forthar-Ramsay, in terms of Royal charter to him, on resignation by him of three quarters, 31 parts, and by David Barclay of Cullernay of one quarter and 31 parts of said lands, in the shire of Fife.<sup>2</sup> At Edinburgh, 14th Feb. 1510-11.

Robert Pitcairn is mentioned in this deed. He was probably Henry Pitcairn's uncle, as the only other mention of Robert de Pitcarne is in the Exchequer Rolls for 1477, where it states that "in the account of Robert Gray of Leith, custumar, coming with English goods to the port of Leith and there sold, there is allowed 30s. off the custom. 3 chalders of malt of Robert de Petcarne, burgess of Perth, who was exempt from payment of custom."

Mr David Pitcarne, Archdeacon of Brechin, was brother to Henry Pitcarne, tenth laird of that Ilk, and also brother to Lady Lindsay and to Elizabeth Pitcarne, who married John Ramsay.

David gave to his nephew James Ramsay, son and heir of the late John Ramsay of Downfield, of the half of the lands of Downfield in the shire of Fife. Dated 2nd Jan. And in the instrument of seizin following thereon, dated 19th Jan. 1515, Thomas Pitcarne was a witness.<sup>3</sup>

David Pitcarne is mentioned as witness to many charters at Brechin and elsewhere.

Henry, eleventh laird of Pitcarne, had two sons—(1) David,

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvi. No. 31.

<sup>2</sup> Laing Charters in University of Edinburgh, 1510-11, No. 683, box 20.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xix. No. 56.

who succeeded to Forthar and Pitcarne; (2) John, who owned Pitlour. He had two daughters—(1) Katherine, who became the wife of John Ballingall and “acquired the lands of Drumardy, Forfar, by marriage-contract from her father-in-law, William Ballingall.<sup>1</sup> Signed at Holyrood 27th Jan.; confirmed 6th March 1512.” Katherine Ballingall had two sons—Patrick, who signed a deed in 1546; and Thomas Ballingall, who was witness to a deed in 1580. Her father, Henry Pitcarne, was witness to a charter at Balgonie on the 20th Feb. 1508.<sup>2</sup> (2) Marjory, married to Robert Whyte of Balnethill. The latter is mentioned in the following charter:—

Charter by William Moncreiff of that Ilk to Robert Whyte of Balnethil and Margory Pitcairn his spouse, of the 4th part of the lands of Kilgraston, in the barony of Moncreif and shire of Perth. Dated at Edinburgh, 9th Feb. 1531-32.<sup>3</sup> Confirmed by the king, 10th Feb. the same year.

In a “charter granted to David Barclay, of Cullerny and the 7th part of Lumbarny, it is said the 6th part of these lands of Cullerny were the property of Henry Pitcarne of Forthar.<sup>4</sup> Dated at Edinburgh, Dec. 28, 1510.”

The Barclays and Pitcairns had each a share of the lands of Cullerny under the Earls of Rothes, and as they are often mentioned in connection with the land, a short account of the Barclay family is given.

Sir David de Barclay was of Balvaird Castle, in the south-east corner of Perthshire. Balvaird came into the possession of the family of Murray, who were lairds of Balvaird, through the marriage of Sir Andrew Murray with Margaret, daughter and sole heir of James Barclay of Balvaird, about the end of the fifteenth or beginning of the sixteenth century. Balvaird Castle is now uninhabited, and in ruins.<sup>5</sup>

*The Barclays of Collairnie.*—The Barclays who possessed part of Cullerny in the parish of Dunbog were descendants

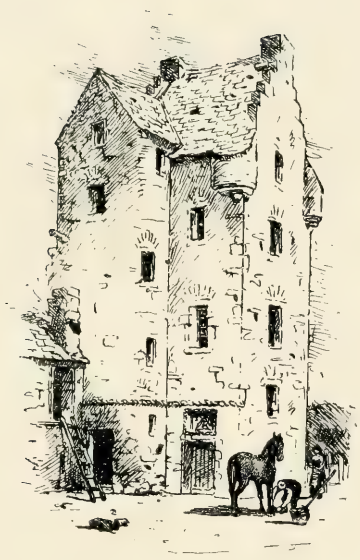
<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxiv. No. 616.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. xv. No. 23.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., lib. xxiv. No. 142.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., lib. xvi. No. 74.

<sup>5</sup> Burke's Peerage; Chambers's Hist. of Scot., vol. i.



COLLAIRNIE TOWER.





from a still older race of Fife barons. In 1315 Sir David Berkeley or Barclay of Barclay-Cairny in Fife married Margaret de Brechin, daughter of Sir David de Brechin, lord of Brechin. Sir David Barclay was one of King Robert the Bruce's ablest and most energetic supporters, and was present at most of his battles. After the battle of Bannockburn he was appointed Sheriff of Fife.

In 1656 we find Robert Barclay of Cullerny served heir-male to his father, Sir David Barclay, Knight, amongst others, in the lands of Kilmaron, Pitbladdon, Hilton, and Boghill.

By Andrew Pitcairn's marriage with Isabel Balvaird, the heiress, he became possessor of Pitblae, Kilmaron, and Hilton.<sup>1</sup>

The Barclays of Cullerny were heritable bailies of the regality of Lindores, an office implying great personal influence or high rank, while it conferred civil authority of the *most varied* and *extensive* authority.

Sir David Barclay had the barony of old Lindores and the land of Cairny, Fife. His strong castle stood near the Loch of Lindores.

We will now return to Henry Pitcarne, and find the next time he is mentioned is, when he was witness to a deed at Pitlour in 1517.<sup>2</sup> (Easter Pitlour belonged to him.)

Aug. 4, at Perth, Mr David Pitcarne, Archdean of Brechin, and John Petcarne, are witnesses to a charter granted to William, Lord Ruthven, and Christian Forbes his spouse, of the lands of Wester Pitlour and Auchnary in Fifeshire.<sup>3</sup> Confirmed by the king 20th Aug. 1526.

Another mention of same deed is as follows :—

William, Lord Ruthven, and Christian his wife, Lady of Ruthven, and William Ruthven their son, bought from Walter Chaipe, lands, Western Pitlour et Auchnary in Baronia de Strathmeglo, held of the King. M. David Petcarne, John Petcarne, Archidiacono Brechinan, &c. At Perth. Edinburgh, 31st Oct. 1536.

<sup>1</sup> See Innerneathy Branch.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., lib. xxi. No. 89.

Henry Pitcarne's son John is mentioned in a deed as selling some of his land near Perth. As his father had given him Pitlour, he perhaps did not want the two properties.

John Pitcarne de Drongy sold 10 marks of land in his village de Blair of Forth, in the barony of Cuthilgurdy in Perth, to Andrew Gib.<sup>1</sup> Dated at the said John's dwelling-place of Pitlour, 27th Oct. 1536. (See Pitlour Branch.)

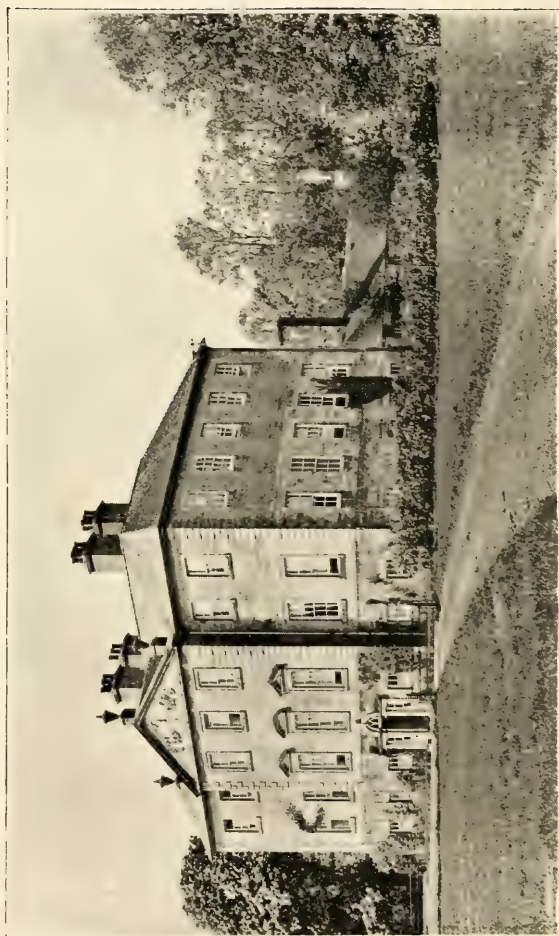
In 1541, Aug. 11th, Mr David Pitcarne, Archdeacon of Brechin, is witness at Brechin to a charter granted by Sir Thomas Erskine of Brechin, Knight, to his son Thomas, of the lands of Canterland and of Kynnaird, in the shire of Kincardin. Confirmed by the king on the 30th Aug. 1541.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. No. 357.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. lib. xxvii. No. 185.





DURIE HOUSE.



## CHAPTER V.

DAVID PITCARNE, TWELFTH LAIRD OF PITCARNE  
AND FORTHAR.

DAVID PITCARNE, twelfth lord of Pitcarne and laird of the baronies of Drongy and Forthar-Ramsay, succeeded Henry before 1528, as there is a

charter on the 21st Feb. of that year, confirmed at Stirling on the 16th May by King James V., wherein William Lumesdale of Airdree, for a certain sum of money, sold David Pitcarne of Forthar-Ramsay and Elizabeth Dury his wife two parts of the lands of Forthar-Ramsay in the barony of Airdree in Fyfe, held by the said David and Elizabeth as long as they live together, and of their heirs, whoever they be, and assigns, held under the King in ward and relief.

Witnesses — Quyte or White in Benythyle, John Cokburn de Newton, Adam Lumsdyn, David Bangall or Ballingall, and George Burnal, chaplain, Thomas Page, and Thomas Machnavin, layman, and Alex. Gall, notary public, with the signature of the said William Lumisdale at Forthar-Ramsay.<sup>1</sup>

David Pitcarne of Forthar-Ramsay married Elizabeth Dury, of the ancient and honourable family of Dury of Dury. George Dury, her brother or kinsman, was Archdeacon of St Andrews and Abbot of Dunfermline; he was the son of John Dury of Dury, in the county of Fife, brother to Andrew Dury, Abbot of Melrose and Bishop of Galway, and was born in 1496. In 1527-30 he was judge and executor of the privileges of the monastery of Aberbrothock near Brechin. His uncle was Archbishop Beaton of St

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. No. 116.

Andrews. Dury was made Abbot of Dunfermline by James V., and appears in Parliament as Abbot and Commendator in 1540, 1542, 1543-44—Extraordinary Lord in 1541, and repeatedly chosen as Lord of the Articles, and one of the Lords of the Secret Council. He was Keeper of the Privy Seal in 1554.<sup>1</sup> In 1560 Dury and the Earl of Eglinton were sent to France, probably to induce the young widowed Queen of Scots to return to Scotland. He died, or suffered martyrdom according to Dempster, on the 27th Jan. 1561, at a very advanced age. Two years after his death he was canonised by the Church of Rome.

When the Reformation troubles put the sacred relics of St Margaret, titular saint of Dunfermline and wife of King Malcolm Canmore, in danger, the coffer, which was of silver incrustated with precious stones, and contained her reputed skull and auburn hair, was taken by Dury for safety, first to his house on Craigluscar Hill, Dunfermline, then to Edinburgh, and shortly afterwards to Burntisland Castle, the Duries' place, which is situated on a high rocky eminence near the harbour, and commands a most extensive and beautiful prospect of the Firth and adjacent lands on both sides as far as the eye can reach. Chalmers says that "an important addition was made to the keep by one of the ancient family of Durie of that Ilk, who built the north and south wings of the castle in 1382, during the reign of Robert II., the first of the Stewarts, over the principal entrance to which the arms of the Duries are inserted under a Gothic canopy, supported by two savages, girded by laurels. The castle continued for a considerable period in the possession of this family, from which circumstance it has been distinguished by the additional title of 'The Abbot's Hall.'"

Their other place was on Craigluscar Hill, and George Dury resided there after the plunder of the monastery and the flight of the religious from it. In 1597 the coffer was delivered to the custody of the Jesuit missionaries in Scotland, who, thinking it was in danger of being lost,

<sup>1</sup> *Diurnal of Occurrents*, Bannatyne Club, p. 64.

conveyed it to Antwerp. It was ultimately lodged in the Scotch College at Douay, where it was exhibited as a pious relic as late as 1770; but was lost, however, at the suppression of the Jesuits there.

Craigluscar House is situated about three miles north-west from the town of Dunfermline. A stone is built into an adjoining low wall,—more than half of it is below the surface of the ground. The stone had a shield carved on it, with an angular top, enclosing the date 1520. On the dexter side of the shield was a St Andrew's cross, and on the sinister side, a chevron enclosing a crescent, with two crescents above. Part of this coat of arms, a chevron with three crescents, is on the sinister side of the shield of the Pitlour Pitcairns. There were on either exterior side, parallel to each other, the capital letters G. D. at top and M. B. below. The stone was on the front of the old mansion-house of Craigluscar, which fell about a hundred years ago, and was found among some of the rubbish, when it was brought away and placed where it now is.

The Dury family arms—a shield, party per chevron with three crescents—are on the Dunfermline Palace Annunciation Stone, and also on their monumental tablet, affixed to the north wall of the nave of the Abbey Church, opposite to their burying-ground. An old book-plate in 1800 shows these arms, with the word CONFIDO (I trust) on the riband or fillet below, and the name Alexander Dury, Esq.<sup>1</sup> The following inscription is on their monument:—

#### CRAIGLUSCAR BURYING-PLACE.

George Dury, Esq., first of Craigluscar, Archdean of St Andrews, Abbot and Commendator of Dunfermline from 1511 to 1560, one of the Lords of Council and Session for 27 years, and being a prelate was also a member of the House of Peers. He was succeeded by his eldest son Henry, and the following proprietors: George, died about 1573; James, died in Sept. 1682; Captain George, Provost of Dunfermline, died in 1687; John, died in March 1726, aged 86; George, died 27th Nov. 1768, aged 67;

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, vol. ii. p. xxv.

Charles, died 21st January 1822, aged 84; Captain Robert, died 24th April 1825, aged 48; Charles Durie, died at Malaga in Spain, 1st March 1845, aged 29.<sup>1</sup>

David Pitcarne's wife, Elizabeth Dury, belonged, therefore, to a very old and well-known Fife family.

"When Abbot Dury fled at the Reformation, Robert Pitcarne (son of David Pitcarne of Forthar-Ramsay and Elizabeth Dury) was elected Abbot and Commendator of Dunfermline Abbey, on the 3rd Jan. 1560, at Holyrood House. Robert Pitcarne, Commendator, is mentioned as giving 'to our well-beloved John Durie [relation of the above George, Abbot], Minister of Chrysts Evangel, sometime one of the Conventual Brethren, and to Joshua Durie, his sone, the Fierlie portion and pension of £66, 13s. 4d., in place of his portion, habitte, sylver and other deutes aucht to him out of the said Abbey before the dispersion thereof. Also landes of North forde, Bulth, Bonalay and Swentoun, Craigluscars, Eister and Wester, and Margaretstane. At Dunfermline, 15th July 1577.'<sup>2</sup>

"In 1580, four years before the decease of Robert Pitcairn, when he had reached an advanced age, he and the convent of Dunfermline created the office of heritable bailie of the regality, and by charter, dated 15th Nov. of that year, conferred it on David Durie of Durie (the nephew, it is supposed, of George, the former Abbot, and who had previously exercised the office of regality bailie under the abbot, but without any written title to it) and his heirs-male in fee and in inheritance for ever.

"The same charter conveyed to him and his successors 'all the feu-ferm, mails of money and victual, and other duties payable to the monastery from all lands belonging to it lying within the kingdom of Scotland on the north side of the river Forth, as fees of office. It contains also a provision that the foresaid bailie and his successors in office should have free entertainment in the monastery for themselves and twelve followers, horse and foot, in meat

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, *Hist. of Dunfermline*, vol. ii. pp. 156, 157.

<sup>2</sup> Cartulary of the Abbey of Dunfermline.



and drink, and suitable lodging and accommodation, whilst they should happen to be detained at the three yearly head courts and other courts of the regality, for the administration of justice in their said office, at the sole expense of the Commendator and his successors.'

"In 1596 David Durie, the original bailie, with consent of his eldest son and heir-apparent, resigned his office and its emoluments into the hands of Queen Anne, as Lady of Dunfermline, in favour of, and for new infestment of the same, to be made and granted to Alexander Seton, President of the Court of Session, by the title of Lord Urquhart.

"Lord Tweeddale in 1650, and again in 1665, applied for, and obtained with some additions, a right, by a decree to apprising, to the office of a hereditary bailie, and also of the lease of the feu-duties and teinds held by the Earl of Dunfermline. On the 12th Feb. 1669 he obtained an absolute charter under the Great Seal to the office in question, whereby he was constituted in his own person heritable bailie of the lordship, and was duly infest therein on the 17th April thereafter."

David Pitcarne, twelfth laird of Pitcarne, was now settled at Forthar-Ramsay. This latter estate came into the Pitcairns' possession through his grandmother, Elizabeth Ramsay, the heiress. It was situated in the centre of Fife, within an easy distance of Falkland on the west and Cupar on the east. It was close to the village of Kingskettle, which belonged to the Pitcairns. The estate of Pitcairn was some miles farther south, near Markinch.

David Pitcarne of that Ilk had three Sons—(1) Henry, (2) Robert, and (3) John—and five daughters: (1) Elspeth, (2) Elizabeth, (3) Isobelle, (4) Barbara, and (5) Alison.

David Pitcarne now acquired Freuchy by a grant from the king.

*Royal Charter.*

On the 29th Sept. 1541 the King granted to David Pitcairn of Forthar, and Elizabeth Dury his wife, the mills of Freuchy and the lordship of the mill lands, which lie in the lordship and county of



Fife, extending to 53 sol. 4 den., 1 chalder of wheat, 10 bolls,  $\frac{2}{3}$  firtolas orden, and 24 capons for the said David in feu-firme to 26 sol. 8 den. to augment the rental held by the said David and Elizabeth, and their male heirs after them, and if there are no male heirs, then the heirs-female by seniority; the town is to deliver annually £4 and a double when the heir enters into possession of the said mills and the policies elsewhere. They also hold the lands under the King, who bound the village of Kingskettle, in the lordship and seneschal of Fyfe, into one freehold of the said mills, with 1 animal and 6 firtolas as the share or measure of the village of Newtown of Falkland, and village and lands of Freuchy, which also gives 1 animal and 3 firtolas. Dated at Perth 29th Sept. 1541.<sup>1</sup>

In 1551 David Pitcarne sold a great part of the estate of Forthar-Ramsay to his son, Mr Robert Pitcarne, who became afterwards Commendator of Dunfermline, was distinguished in history, and whose life is given in full later on.

Charter by David Petcarne of Forthir,<sup>2</sup> whereby he sold to Mr Robert Petcarne, his son, the lands of Forthir, with tower, fortalice, manor, gardens and orchards, and lands of Dunfield or Downfield, with tower, fortalice, manor, yards, and orchards in the shire of Fife. To be holden to the said Robert and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten, which failing, to John Petcarne, son of said David, and his heirs-male, &c., of the Queen, by the service of ward. Reserving to the said David the frank tenement of the lands, and to Elizabeth Dury the conjunct fee of the half of Dunfield, and the quarter of the 32nd part of Forthir, with a reasonable 3rd part of the remaining lands. Dated at Forthir 25th Jan. 1551-52. Confirmed by the queen at Edinburgh 27th Jan., same year.<sup>3</sup>

Charter by Mary, Queen of Scots, to David Petcarne of Forthir and his heirs, of the lands of Dunfield in the shire of Fife, of which the one part was resigned by John Wemyss of Pittencrief, and the other by the said David. Reserving to Elizabeth Dury, wife of said David, her liferent of one-half. Dated at Jedburgh, 8th Nov. 1551.<sup>4</sup>

David Pitcairn had therefore sold to his second son Robert a great part of Forthar, although the freehold of the old house and some lands he still held for his lifetime, with his wife Elizabeth. He no doubt had made this disposition of his property to ensure it going in the male line

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. No. 131.

<sup>2</sup> Forthar is often spelt Forthir.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. No. 733.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., No. 637.

instead of to the daughters of his eldest son Henry. As will be seen later on, when his son John succeeded to the property he paid Janet Pitcairn, the eldest daughter of his brother Henry, a large sum of money as an equivalent to any claim she might have on the Forthar estate.

It may be of interest to give here a slight description of the houses, towers, and fortalices, and the manners and customs of the nobles and gentry of this period.

"The idea of the master or mistress of the mansion feeding or living apart from the domestics was at this period never entertained. The only difference between the servants and their masters was that the latter had the highest end of the board, and also the most commodious settle by the fire. The servants moved with deference indeed, but could join in the conversation unreprieved.

"After the outdoor life was over, in the evening first the iron gate, then the inner door of the towers were fastened.

"Every man in these days had his own carpenter and smith, as well as his own tailor and shoemaker. The lady of the house would sit at her distaff close to an iron candlestick, which supported a misshapen torch of domestic manufacture, and read from a book, perhaps her sole library. She would have learnt to read when she was at school in a nunnery.

"In each small village or town were several small towers, having battlements projecting over the side walks, and usually at an advanced angle or two, with shot-holes, for flanking the doorway, always defended by a strong door of oak studded with nails, and often by an exterior grated door of iron. These small pent-houses were ordinarily inhabited by the principal feuars and their families; but upon the alarm of approaching danger the whole inhabitants thronged from their own miserable cottages, which were situated around, to garrison these points of defence. Though the cottages were badly furnished, the families in themselves showed a degree of comfort, information, and independence which could hardly have been expected.

"Their in-field supplied them with bread and home-brewed

ale, their herds and flocks with beef and mutton. Each family killed a fat bullock in November, which was salted up for winter use, to which the wife could add a dish of pigeons or a fat capon. The garden gave kale and the river salmon; peat they had in plenty, as the bogs afforded turf, and woods gave logs. Bucks they were sometimes able to shoot with their crossbows."<sup>1</sup>

Perth and Stirling had their schools as early as 1173, of which the monks of Dunfermline were the directors, and there were similar seminaries in the towns of Ayr, Berwick, and Aberdeen. It is certain that attached to the Cathedral Church, belonging to the Monastery of St Andrews, there stood a lyceum, where the youth were instructed in Latin; and that as early as 1293 the schools of St Andrews were under the charge of a rector. A remarkable instance of this is to be found in the Chartulary of Kelso, where "Matilda, Lady of Mull, in the year 1260, grants a certain rent to be paid to the abbot and the monks of this religious house, on the condition that they should board and educate her son with the best boys who were intrusted to their care."<sup>2</sup>

The Chartulary of Kelso says that the schools in Roxburghshire were under the care of the monks of Kelso during the reign of David I., and that the rectorship of the schools was an established office in 1241. The noblemen's and gentlemen's sons of that time were obliged to attend the grammar-schools for some years: there they were taught reading, writing, Latin, and a knowledge of the law, which latter proved very useful to them when they had to manage their estates later on.

After the school-days were over it was the custom for the sons and daughters of the gentry to be sent into the castles of those of higher rank than themselves, as pages and waiting-gentlewomen, to be trained in all the manners and observances of polite society of those days. Edinburgh,

<sup>1</sup> From Sir Walter Scott.

<sup>2</sup> Tytler's Hist., Edinburgh, 1829, vol. ii. pp. 353, 354. The printed Dunfermline charter.

in the time of Mary, Queen of Scots, was a very fine city, and many of the great nobles had their town houses there. The Royal Palace of Holyrood was the scene of many gay doings, and was inhabited by James IV., and it was here that all important transactions during the reign of Queen Mary and her son James VI. took place.

The sons of the younger branches of the Pitcairns are mentioned several times as pages to the head of the family (Pitcairn of Forthar), also as pages to Lord Seton, and to Prince Charles, &c. Sir Walter Scott writes of these times:—

“The High Street of Edinburgh was long considered one of the finest and widest in Europe. In it was the old palace of Mary of Guise, Queen of James V. and mother of Queen Mary. The traders had open booths instead of shops. Here a lady in her muffler or silken veil, with golden ornaments, could be seen, a gentleman-usher making way for her, and a waiting-gentleman carrying her Bible. Here were the citizens in short Flemish cloaks, wide trousers, high caped doublets, and bonnet and feather, and staid clergymen in black Geneva cloaks and bands. Gallant gentlemen were there in slashed doublets with a poniard, and at the side a long sword, or perhaps with a mantle of crimson lined with rich fur, and on the head a crimson silk bonnet, looped up on one side, with a golden chain of many links thrice round the hat and fastened with a medal, a fashion among the grandees of that time. Behind them came a body of stout serving-men armed with sword and buckler, the latter being a small round shield having a steel pike in front.”<sup>1</sup>

In an account of James, the Good Regent, by Sir Walter Scott, he states, “On one occasion he wore a buff coat, richly embroidered with silk lace, a massive gold chain with a medal hung round the neck, a black velvet bonnet which was decorated with a string of large and fair pearls, and with a small tufted feather. He also carried a long heavy sword which was girt to his side, and long gilded boots.”

So much for the manners and dress of the period.

<sup>1</sup> The Abbot, Sir Walter Scott.



"In 1537, 12th Jan., Sir Oliver Sinclair got by charter under the Great Seal the lands and barony of Pitcairns."<sup>1</sup> Pitcairns here mentioned is not the "Pitcairn estate" in Fife, but that in Perthshire, although "Pitcairns" in Strath-earn had belonged to the family from a very early date.

In Aug. 1564 Queen Mary confirmed a charter, granted by "Sir David Petcarne and other stallarie of the choir and Cathedral of Glasgow, to Mr Michel Chesholme, of their lands of Kyndally and others in the territory of Glasgow."<sup>2</sup>

David Pitcarne, twelfth laird of Pitcarne and of the barony of Forthar-Ramsay, died *ante* 10th May 1569, when his will was proved in Edinburgh. He had three sons—(1) Henry; (2) Robert; (3) John—and five daughters: Elizabeth, Elspeth, Isabel, Barbara, and Alison. His widow, Elizabeth Dury, married John Lindsay of Kirk-forthar after Pitcarne's death.

Henry, his eldest son, married Christian, second daughter of Andrew Seton of Parbroath. Henry died before his father David, and left only two daughters, Janet and Agnes. Janet married Robert Balfour of Dovan. Her will was made 19th Dec. 1589. There was some litigation after Janet Balfour's death, particulars of which, also of the transfer of the Dovan lands, have been communicated to me by Mr Charles Balfour of Newton Don.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Douglas's Baronage of Scotland, 1537, 1546.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. No. 574.

<sup>3</sup> See chap. vi.



## CHAPTER VI.

## TRANSFER OF DOVAN TO THE PITCAIRN FAMILY.

ABOUT 1562 David Balfour of Dovan entered into an agreement with his cousin David Balfour of Balledmouth, evidently to free himself from monetary difficulties, and to preserve the estate of Dovan in the family, whereby he assigned Dovan to Balledmouth, who lent him certain sums over it, and agreed to hand it back to him or his heirs when the sums were repaid, and to let him the property on a rent agreed upon between them. Dovan was held from Lundie of Balgonie.

Ten years after this, David of Dovan being dead, a marriage was arranged between his son, Robert Balfour of Dovan, and Janet Pitcairn, one of the two daughters of Henry Pitcairn of Forthar, who left no male issue.

A family agreement was entered into between Janet and her uncle, John Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, whereby, in consideration of certain sums paid to her and others for the redemption of Dovan, she gave up her father's share of Forthar-Ramsay to her uncle, and was herself infeft in the lands of Dovan. The agreement is briefly as follows<sup>1</sup>:—

“*Oct. 19, 1572.* Agreement between John Pitcairn of that Ilk and Janet Pitcairn, ‘his brother’s dochter.’

“Janet binds herself that she shall ‘at the desire of the said Mr John enter herself heir of umquhile David Pit-

<sup>1</sup> Register of Acts and Decrees, vol. 53, fol. 448, Jan. 18, 1572, to Sept. 3, 1574.

cairn of Forthir, her guidschyr [grandfather], and to umquhile Henrie Pitcairn,' her father, of 'all and haill the lands of Forthir, towre, fortalice, and manor-place of the same, and all and haill the lands of Downfield, Pitcairne, Muirhead, pertis landis [part lands] of Kilmarone, with partis, pendicles, and pertinents of the same.'

"She shall then resign them in favour of John; while he pays 'to the utilitie and proffit of the said Janet and to her marriage, the which deid and sowmes of money eftir specifet in tocher gud with her, for hir marriage to be contracted and solemnized betwix hir and Robert Balfour of Dowyne; by and attour' (besides) the great sum of money already paid.

"Namely, to William Lundy of that Ilk, donator of Robert Balfour's marriage, 500 merks.

"To David Balfour of Balledmouth, 1600 merks for the lawful redemption of the lands of Dowyne.

"He (John Pitcairne) shall cause Robert and Janet, 'or at least Janet,' to be infest in them, and relieve them further of the sums of 200 merks at the hands of Charles Kay, 120 merks at the hands of Richard Strang.

"Done in the southern chamber at Forthir at 9 A.M., Oct. 19, 1572."

Accordingly, on July 26, 1573,<sup>1</sup> Janet received a charter from Robert Lundie of Balgonie of the lands of Dovan *to herself and her heirs*, and the marriage was solemnised.

Janet died 1585, leaving issue Patrick, John, and Robert (who predeceased John). Her husband survived her.

In the meantime her uncle, Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of the Abbey of Dunfermline, has also died, and his younger brother, John Pitcairn, now of Forthar, in virtue of his agreement with Janet, took possession of his property. On Feb. 17, 1588-89, Patrick Balfour and his aunt, Agnes Pitcairn, came before the Privy Council to claim their inheritance.

Patrick, son and apparent heir of Janet Pitcairn, one of

<sup>1</sup> Cupar Records.

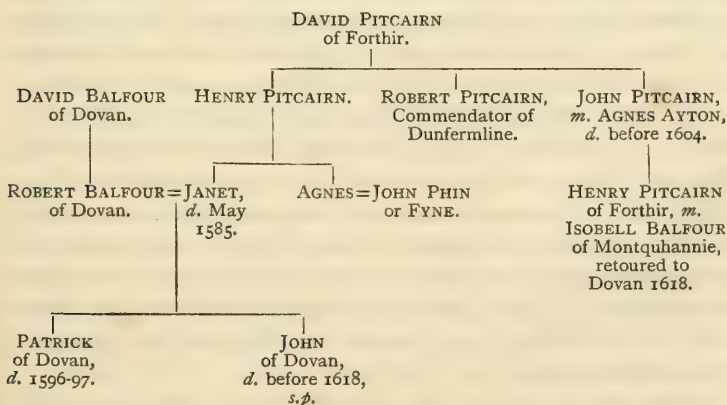
the two daughters and apparent heirs of the deceased Henry Pitcairn of Forthir.

Agnes Pitcairn, the other of the two daughters and apparent heirs of the deceased Henry, "who was immediate elder brother of the deceased Robert, Commendator of Dunfermline."

Robert Balfour, as "father, administrator, intromitter, guide, and governor" of Patrick, brings an action against "John Pitcairn, Agnes Ayton his spouse, Henry Pitcairn his son, and Isobell Balfour, daughter of Sir Michael Balfour of Montquhanny, his spouse, anent the succession to the lands of Easter and Wester Gellatis, Maistertoune, Roscobie, Lymkillis, Morphisfauld, the hill called Calzeranshe, and others."<sup>1</sup>

They win their case. On June 29, 1589, the Lords of the Council decide that the said lands have been lawfully redeemed, and that the said defenders shall resign the same.

The family connections established by these documents are therefore—



Patrick Balfour died probably in 1596, and thereupon ensued a dispute as to the succession to Dovan.

Martin Balfour of Lawlethan, cousin of Robert, and his

<sup>1</sup> Acts and Decrees of the Lords of the Privy Council, vol. 118, fol. 20.

family, on Oct. 22, 1596, had himself retoured heir to Dovan in virtue of a charter of Dovan by his great-grandfather John in 1499 (who was great-great-grandfather to Robert and their common ancestor) granting the lands to his grandfather David.

The Assize gave the retour, commenting that the lands had been in non-entry since the death of David in Jan. 1546.<sup>1</sup>

Martin took this action no doubt in order to try and secure that Dovan should remain in the family, and to prevent it passing to the Pitcairns as heirs of Janet on the death of John, who was now her only Balfour representative, and rather a weakling, from the evidence of the documents bearing on the family arrangement entered into.

On May 13, 1598, John got himself retoured as heir to his brother Patrick.<sup>2</sup>

In 1604 Martin and John came to an arrangement, with the consent of Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh (created 1607 Lord Balfour of Burleigh), Sir Andrew Balfour of Montquhannie, and Henry Pitcairn of Forthar.

Martin will not impugn Janet's infeftment in the lands of Dovan, but will ratify and approve it, and will procure John to be served heir to Janet. John, as soon as the ward of Balgonie expires (Robert Lundie of Balgonie being about seventeen at this date), will charge Balgonie to enter him heir to Dovan, and Martin and Sir Andrew agree to bear jointly the expenses of action if Balgonie resists the claim.

They agree to the sale of Dovan, and if sold, Martin is to get half the price. If it is not sold, he is to be infefted in one-half. If one party is willing to sell and the other not, the unwilling party must buy the half belonging to the willing party.

If Martin does not get his half share or is infefted in half the lands, the agreement lapses, and the conveyance of the lands in 1499 to Martin's grandfather stands, and John binds himself to ratify it.

John is served heir Aug. 14, 1605.

<sup>1</sup> Retours of Heirs.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



Both agree to sell Dovan to Sir Andrew Balfour of Montquhannie, but disputes arise about the conveyance.

In Nov. 1605 Martin inhibits John for not fulfilling the contract.

In Dec. 1606 Montquhannie inhibits Martin to deliver him his bond of sale.

In Feb. 1607 John Balfour, with the consent of Montquhannie and Pitcairn, inhibits Martin, and Montquhannie inhibits John, from selling elsewhere.

Feb. 1, 1608. The inhibition of Martin against John is relaxed on the ground that neither could sell Dovan on account of the double ownership of the lands, and Robert Lundin of Balgonie, now about twenty-two or thereby, appeals to the Privy Council that he cannot receive both as vassals, and gets letters of suspension till it can be proved which is right.

Feb. 16, 1608. Sir Andrew of Montquhannie inhibits John from selling elsewhere, and the writ is served on him at Bandon where he is residing.

Montquhannie got the lands, as he is mentioned as residing at Dovan in another charter; but he died without issue, and was, as far as can be ascertained, the last of his family who possessed Montquhannie. He probably sold it, or it was in the hands of creditors, for otherwise he would have no reason for acquiring and living at Dovan.

Presumably an arrangement was come to with Martin, who, from what is known of his history, was not the man to give up a quarrel. He remained on amicable terms with Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh's family, who also took part in this agreement, so he possibly gave up his claim for a substantial consideration.

Montquhannie must also have arranged matters with John to hold Dovan from him, for he was never infeft in Dovan, and on John's death his cousin Henry Pitcairn was served heir to him in these lands in 1618, and they continued in the Pitcairn family till 1803, when John Balfour of Balbirnie, the direct descendant of Martin Balfour of Lawlethan, bought them and Forthar also from the heirs



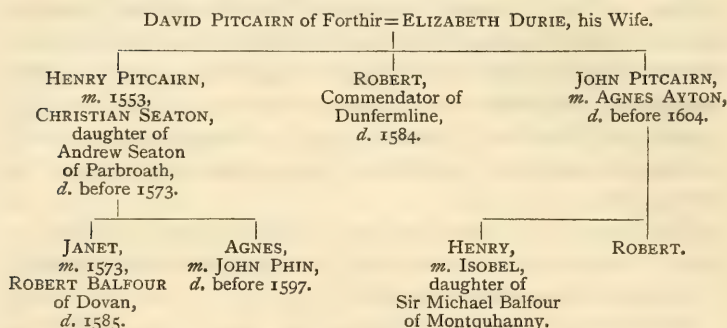
of Dr David Pitcairn of Forthar, the sons of his sister Anne, Sir John and Sir George Campbell.

Edward Balfour of Balbirnie, great-grandson of John Balfour, is their present possessor.

NOTES BY MR C. BALFOUR ON PITCAIRN SUCCESSION TO—

(a) *Forthir, Downfield, &c.*

(b) *Easter and Wester Gellatis, Maistertoune, Roscovie, Lymkillis, Moreisfaulds, &c.*



(a) *Forthir succession.*

In 1551-52 David grants a charter of the lands of Forthir and Downfield to Robert, and, failing his heirs, to John, for a sum of money (Reg. Mag. Sig.) It may be, therefore, that this was a wadset of the lands, and that it was open to Henry or his father to redeem them.

That Henry was the eldest son is proved by the lawsuit of his daughters' representatives over lands (b) in 1558-59, wherein the statement is made that Henry was "the immediate elder brother of the deceased Robert, Commendator of Dunfermline."

Henry marries in 1553 ('Family of Seaton') Christian Seaton. His elder daughter Janet would therefore be nineteen when she marries Robert Balfour, 1572-73. Her father is now dead, but Robert the Commendator is still alive.

John Pitcairn, her uncle, comes to an agreement with her, whereby he gets rid of all claims she, as his brother Henry's heir, may make on the lands of Forthir. He may have had in view a possible redemption of the lands, or he may have felt his ultimate title to be secure. He must have had an agreement with the Commendator, for what happens is this: Janet is retoured heir to her grandfather and father, and therefore resigns the lands, not

to Robert the Commendator, but to John, for the consideration of £1613, 6s. 8d. Scots money (merks 2420). This transaction would seem a family arrangement agreeable to both parties, whereby Janet gets enough to marry on, and John her uncle gets rid of any possible claims against him in the future in regard to these properties.

(b) *Easter and Wester Gallatis, &c.*

These lands seem to have been part of the abbey lands of Dunfermline. In 1563 Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of the Abbey of Dunfermline, gives a charter of these lands to Robert Richardson, Commendator of St Mary's Isle (Register of the Great Seal), and to his heirs.

In 1575 (Laing Charters, No. 912) Robert Richardson appoints a procurator to resign these lands into the hands of Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline, as superior. The procurator named is Thomas Tosheauch, chamberlain to the Monastery (Laing Charters, No. 986). This resignation may have been simply in order that the superior should infest Stephen Richardson, brother of Robert Richardson. This certainly seems to have been done, for in 1579 (Laing Charters, No. 975,) both Robert and Stephen being dead, Stephen's daughter Alison resigns the lands to the superior, in order that he may infest his brother John Pitcairn. This he does on Sept. 24 of the same year, 1579 (Laing Charters, No. 986), to be held in "feu farm."

From the Dunfermline Register it is clear that Robert the Commendator bought out the Richardsons, in order to give the lands to his brother in feu, he as Commendator being superior.

In 1586 (Laing Charters, No. 117) John Pitcairn of that Ilk, "fiar of the lands," on his son's marriage infefts his future wife in a liferent in the lands. Soon after this Robert Pitcairn must have died, for it is in 1588 that the heirs of Henry claim the lands as heirs of Robert. By Scottish law the heir of a childless (and fatherless) man is his next elder brother. It is for this reason that they emphasise that Henry was "the immediate elder brother of Robert," and it appears that what they claim is the superiority of the lands. Probably by this time the lands had become the Commendator's personal property, from a grant to him of the Abbey lands. The Lords decide in their favour possibly on the above grounds, and direct John to resign the superiority of the lands. It is doubtful if the decision took much effect, for the last of Janet's children died in 1618, and Henry Pitcairn of Forthar was installed as superior of the lands in 1610 (Laing Charters, No. 1600), when he sells Easter Gellats to his brother, Robert Pitcairn of Downfield.

These Gelllets lands, or rather Western Gelllets, was bought in 1600 by Sir George Bruce of Carnock, and is now Broomhall, Lord Elgin's place. See 'Fife Pictorial and Historical,' vol. ii.

As the Balfours were connected by marriage with the Pitcairns, there is a short account of their family inserted here.

Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh was served heir to his father, Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh. He had a charter of half the lands of *Kinloch*, married Christian, only daughter of John Bethune of Crieck, and had an only child, his sole heiress, Margaret Balfour, who married Sir James Balfour of Pittendreich and Montquhannie, Lord President of the Court of Session, who had three sons and six daughters. Their eldest son, Sir Michael Balfour of Burleigh, was made Lord Balfour of Burleigh by James VI. He married Margaret Adamson, and, secondly, Margaret, daughter of Lundie of Lundie, by whom he had a daughter, Margaret, who succeeded him as Baroness Balfour of Burleigh. She married Robert Arnot, the son of Robert Arnot of Fernie, Chamberlain of Fife. This Robert Arnot assumed on his marriage the name of Balfour, and had the title of Lord Burleigh in virtue of a letter from the king.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE BALFOURS OF BALBIRNIE.

During the reign of Malcolm IV. the lands of Balbirnie belonged to Orun, the son of Hugh, Abbot of Abernethy, the ancestor of the family of Abernethy. He exchanged them with Duncan, Earl of Fife, the charter being confirmed by William the Lion. Sibbald says that anciently these lands belonged to a family who took their name from them, and were designed Balbirnie of that Ilk. About the end of the sixteenth or the beginning of the seventeenth century the lands of Balbirnie were purchased from the Balbirnies, who held them under the Earls of Fife, by George Balfour, son of Martin Balfour of Dovon and Lawlethan, the ancestor of the present proprietor. This Martin Balfour was in 1596 served heir to his grandfather, David

<sup>1</sup> From Conolly's 'Eminent Men of Fife.'

Balfour, in the lands of Dovan and Lawlethan. He was descended from Peter Balfour, a younger son of Balfour of Balfour, who, having married a daughter of Thomas Sibbald of Balgonie, obtained from his father-in-law a charter of the lands of Dovan in the reign of Robert III. The present proprietor of Balbirnie seems, therefore, to divide with Balfour of Fernie the representation of the ancient family of Balfour of Balfour.

John Balfour of Balbirnie was born on the 23rd April 1811. On the 25th June 1840 he married Lady Georgiana Isabella Campbell, second daughter of the late Earl of Cawdor, and had issue, three sons and three daughters. His son, Lieutenant-General Robert Balfour, succeeded to Balbirnie. General Balfour died on the 31st October 1837. His children were: Robert Frederick, born 30th April 1846; Edward, born 23rd January 1849, the present proprietor of Balbirnie; John William, born 20th August 1850; Emily Eglantine; Georgiana Elizabeth; Mary Louisa.

Arthur James Balfour of Whittinghame, the Prime Minister, was born on the 25th July 1848. He succeeded his father, James Maitland Balfour, to Whittinghame in 1856. The lineage of Mr Balfour is as under:—

James Balfour, Esq., a younger son of John Balfour of Balbirnie, married Lady Eleanor Maitland, daughter of James, eighth Earl of Lauderdale, and died in April 1845, leaving issue: James Maitland; Charles, of Balgonie and Newton Don; Mary, married to Henry Arthur Herbert, Esq. of Muckcross; Anna, married to Lord Augustus Charles Lennox Fitzroy, second son of Henry, fifth Duke of Grafton, who died 23rd December 1857. The elder son, James Maitland Balfour, Esq. of Whittinghame, born 5th January 1820, married, on the 15th August 1843, Lady Blanche Gascoyne Cecil, second daughter of James, Marquis of Salisbury, and had issue: Arthur James, now of Whittinghame; Cecil Charles; Francis Maitland; Gerald William; Eleanor Mildred; Evelyn Georgiana Mary; Alice Blanche.



## CHAPTER VII.

## DAVID PITCAIRN'S CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

AGNES PITCAIRN, granddaughter of David Pitcairn of that Ilk and youngest daughter of his eldest son Henry, married John Fyne or Phin of Burnt Island, in 1595. They left two sons, Patrick and David Fyne, and one daughter, Marjory. When Agnes Pitcairn's uncle, Robert Pitcairn the Commendator, died in 1584, his estate of Limekilns and the Gelleys passed to his brother John and his nieces Janet and Agnes. This appears from one of the Pitfirrane charters, which is here copied, and from casual contemporary entries in the Register of Dunfermline Abbey. Agnes Pitcairn's son, Patrick Fyne, in 1597 made a conveyance of his hereditary interest in the Pitcairn estates to David Seaton of Parbroath, as the following contract indicates:—

*Ane* contract past betwixt David Seaton of Parbroath and Patrick fyne, son to John fyne in Burntiland and eldest sone and appearand aire to umqu. Agnes Pitcairn who was one of the two aires of conquest served and retoured to Umqu. Mr Robert Pitcairn, Comendator of Dunfermling, whereby the said Patrick fyne as aire forsd. assigns in favour of ye said David Seaton the reversion of the lands of Lymekills and sech uyr lands Ilks wer disposedd by the said Comendator to Mr John Pitcairn his Broyr, the one-half of the lands of Lymekills with the teynd sheaves thereof, reserving the Manor place, Orchards and salt pans and Harbors thereof to the said David Seaton. Dated 10 and 11 days of April 1597.<sup>1</sup>

David Phin, presumably a brother of Patrick Phin, also appears in connection with this transference. In 1598 he

<sup>1</sup> Pitfirrane Charters, kindly allowed to be copied by the late Sir P. Arthur Halkett of Pitfirrane.



resigned whatever claim he had, and we can trace no further reference to Limekilns between that date and 1606. In that year Allan Coutts, Chamberlain of Dunfermline Abbey, had a charter of the lands, and prior to 1629 they were acquired by Sir George Bruce of Carnock.

John Pitcairn of Forthar, son to David Pitcairn of that Ilk, and heir to his brother Robert the Commendator, also resigned his claim to Limekilns, which will be more fully described in Robert Pitcairn's life later on.

Letter of Procuratory by Mr John Pitcairn of that Ilk, Henry Pitcairne, his son and heir, and Isobella Balfour, his spouse, for resigning the town (opidum) and lands of Lymekyllis, with harbour (portu) and manor place, and the lands of Weddergang respectively, in the lordship and regality of Dunfermline and Sheriffdom of Fife, into the hands of George, Earl of Huntly, &c., Commendator of the Monastery of Dunfermline, recently erected into a temporal lordship, for new infeftment to Robert Bruce of Baldrig, his heirs, &c. Witnesses, &c.<sup>1</sup>

There is another entry in the Pitfirrane papers in connection with the Phins:—

In 1637 Sir James Halkett of Pitfirrane and his son acquired the Lands of Lymkills from James Phin.<sup>1</sup>

And, lastly, when a Phin was owner of Pittencrieff:—

Captain George Phin was the proprietor of Pittencrieff in 1785.<sup>2</sup>

We will now turn to David Pitcairn's four daughters, and give a short account of the families they married into.

David Pitcairn of that Ilk appears to have had two daughters named Elizabeth,—at least, one was sometimes called Elspeth. His widow married John Lindsay of Kirkforthar, and on John Lindsay's death provision was made for her daughter Elspeth (married to Andrew Kinninmonth of Craighall): in the deed she is mentioned as Elspeth Pitcairn, her daughter by her first husband.

<sup>1</sup> Pitfirrane Charters, kindly allowed to be copied by the late Sir P. Arthur Halkett of Pitfirrane.

<sup>2</sup> Coll.-Procs., Car. I. No. 43.

See the account in the description of the Lindsay-Pitcairn marriages earlier in the book.

Elizabeth, eldest daughter of David Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, married Robert Aytoun. Her brother, Robert Pitcairn the Commendator, settled on them the lands of Inchdairnie.<sup>1</sup>

Carta feudefirmæ.

Robertj Aytoun et Eli<sup>b</sup> Pitcairne de terris de inchedarny.<sup>2</sup>

The Aytouns are mentioned again in 1689 at Falkland, on the 4th July, when Andrew Pitcairn, son of Andrew Pitcairn of Cordoune, witnessed a "renunciation by William Aytoun, brother-german of David Aytoun of Kinaldy, to Andrew Lundy of Cairnie."

"The family of Aytoun in Scotland is sprung from the Norman family of De Vescy in England, who possessed the great barony of Sprouston in Northumberland, and of whom a long pedigree is given by Sir William Dugdale in his 'Baronetage of England.'"<sup>3</sup> The family of De Vescy was of great antiquity, but the name is now extinct. A member of the family distinguished himself as one of the barons who compelled King John to grant the Magna Charta, for securing the lives and properties of the English subjects. His name is appended to the Magna Charta. About the same time a younger son of the family, Gilbert De Vescy, came into Scotland, and received from King Robert I. the lands of Aytoun in the Merse, and changed his name, by royal authority, to the estate, as was the custom of the period. The Aytoun family continued in the Merse until the reign of James III., when a member of the house of Home married the heiress, and carried the estate into that family. This lady's uncle, her father's younger brother, Andrew Aytoun, was Captain of Stirling Castle, and Sheriff of Elgin and Forres, during the reign of James IV. To him the king gave by his charters, "pro

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. No. 351.

<sup>2</sup> The Dunfermline Cartulary, fol. 37.

<sup>3</sup> Extract from Conolly's Eminent Men of Fife.

fideli et bono servitio, terras de Nether-Dunmure in vice-comitatu de Fife" in 1507, "terras de Kilgour" in 1504, and "terras de Glenduckie" in 1506. These estates were at a subsequent period, by a new charter from the Crown, called Aytoun, and the elder branch of the family denominated of that Ilk. Captain Aytoun had three sons and seven daughters. His eldest son, John, succeeded him in the estate of Aytoun; his second son, *Robert, obtained the estate of Inchdairnie*, through his marriage with Elizabeth Pitcairn; and Andrew, his third son, succeeded to the estate of Kinaldie.

The family of Aytoun of Aytoun, the eldest branch of the family, is now extinct, and the Governor of Stirling Castle is represented through his second son, Robert of Inchdairnie. In 1829 John Aytoun, Esq. of Inchdairnie, served himself nearest and lawful heir-male and head of the family of Aytoun, and he is still represented by an Aytoun of Inchdairnie.

Sir Robert Aytoun, "a very illustrious knight, most adorned by every virtue and species of learning, especially poetry," and a favourite courtier in the reign of James VI., calls for a somewhat extended notice, as one of Fife's most gifted sons. He was the second son of Andrew Aytoun of Kinaldie, and from the inscription on his monument in Westminster, it appears he was born in the castle on that estate in 1570. His uncle, Robert Aytoun, was the ancestor of the Inchdairnie branch of the family.

Elsbeth, second daughter of David Pitcairn of Forthar, married Andrew Kinninmonth of that Ilk, of Craighall, long before 1582. They had a son, William Kinnemonth of that Ilk. *His* son, Patrick Kininmonth, in 1650 was in Sweden.

Patrick had a son, James, and the following charter is in reference to him:—

1657, *March 3rd.* James Kininmonth of that Ilk, heir of Patrick Kininmonth of that Ilk, his father, in a fifth part of the lands of Kininmonth, within the parish of Kinglassie, the lands of Cowquhales Easter and Wester, the lands of Colletoune, the

lands of Pitcairne and Mylne of Pitcairne, the lands of Urquhart, the lands of Pitkeany—all united into the Barony of Wester Kinninmonth.<sup>1</sup>

James in his turn made a disposition of his property to his son, also named Patrick, like his grandfather:—

1686, *April 27th*. Patrick Kinnimond of that Ilk, heir of James Kinnimond of that Ilk, his father, in a fifth part of the land of Kinninmonth, within the barony of Kinglassie, of the lands of Urquhart, of the land of Coquhailles Easter and Wester, of the land of Collestoune, of the land of Pitcairn and Milldam of Pitcairn, of the land of Pittkeany—all united in the Barony of Wester Kinninmonth.<sup>2</sup>

“Isobelle Pitcairn, third daughter of David Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, married in 1546 John Bethune, son of John, ninth laird of Balfour, and Agnes Anstruther his wife.”<sup>3</sup> They were married at St Andrews, Fife, and the deed is as follows:—

3257. Apud Edinburgh 22 Maii 1546.

Regina et confirmavit cartam Johannis Betoun de Balfour (qua concessit filio suo et heredi apparente Johanni Betoun et Isobelle Pitcairn ejus conjugii terras vocat lie Newtoun de Catill alias Hoil-Catill in Baronia Balfour vic Fife.

Tenend. dictis Johanni Juniori et Isobelle Pitcairn et eorum altere diutias viventi in conjuncta infeodatione, et heredibus inter ipsos legitime procreatis quibus deficientibus, heredibus dicte Johanni Junioris quibuscumque de Regina: Test. Davide Pitcarne de Forthir, M. John Spens de Overston, David Strang, Pat. Ballengall. Apud S. Andriam, 18 Maii 1546.<sup>4</sup>

The foregoing charter is roughly translated as follows:—

At Edinburgh, on 22nd May, a charter was drawn up by John Betoun of Balfour to his son and heir-apparent, and Isobelle Pitcairn his wife, of the lands of Cathill, alias Hoilcathill, in the barony of Balfour in Fife, held by the said John junior, and Isabella his wife between them, and their legitimate heirs whoever they be. Witness, David Pitcairn of Forthar, &c. 18th May 1546.

<sup>1</sup> Retours for Fife, vol. 24, fol. 127.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. 38, fol. 320.

<sup>3</sup> From the Bethune family MSS. Book, communicated to me by the kindness of Mr C. Balfour of Newton Don.

<sup>4</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. No. 351.



The heiress, Isabel Balfour, married a younger son of the fourth Lord Seton, ancestor of the Setons of Carriston. There must have been a lawsuit with her grandfather, for there were "Letters of arrestment at the instance of Isabel Balfour and John Seton, 1st Baron of Causton, her spouse, against David Pitcairn of Forthir."<sup>1</sup>

John Bethune succeeded his father in 1579 as tenth laird, and had an only son who died young. He died himself in 1591, and was succeeded in the estate of Balfour by his brother, Robert Bethune.<sup>2</sup>

John's daughter Margaret married John Bar the historian, in 1560. Her mother was Isobelle Pitcairn, and therefore Margaret Bethune was a niece of Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline.

"The Beatons or Bethunes belonged to an illustrious house in France, from which sprung the Duke de Sully, the celebrated minister of Henry IV.<sup>3</sup> The name was derived from Bethune, a town in French Flanders. They came into England with William the Conqueror: one of them was the companion of Richard Cœur de Lion on his return from the Holy Land.

"Alexander de Bethune continued faithful to the family of Bruce, and was knighted for his valour. He was slain in the battle of Dupplin, 12th August 1332. In the fifth year of the reign of Robert II., Robert de Bethune, styled 'familiarus regis,' a younger son of the above-named Sir Alexander, married the daughter and heiress of Sir John Balfour of that Ilk, and his son succeeding to the estate, the family was afterwards designed Bethune of Balfour. From this family Bethune, Archbishop of St Andrews and Chancellor of Scotland, his nephew Cardinal Bethune, and the Cardinal's nephew, James Bethune, Archbishop of Glasgow, were descended.

"Sir John Bethune was Keeper of the Palace of Falkland, as his father had been, and Steward of Fife, during part of the reign of James V. He was succeeded by his eldest

<sup>1</sup> From Mr George Seton's book.

<sup>2</sup> The Bethune MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Conolly's Eminent Men of Fife.



son, David, who died, unmarried, in 1539, when the second son, Robert Bethune, inherited the family estate. The latter was early attached to the royal household, and attended the young queen, Mary, to France as a page. On her return to Scotland in 1561 he was appointed Master of the Household, heritable Steward of Fife, and Keeper of Falkland Palace. He married a French lady, Joanna Renwall or Grysonner, a maid of honour to the queen. By her he had two sons and eight daughters. His eldest daughter, Mary Bethune, was one of the Queen's 'four Maries,' whose extraordinary beauty has been nearly as celebrated as her own. An original portrait of Mary Bethune, in full court dress, is still preserved at Balfour House in Fife, and also one of the Cardinal. She married, in 1566, Alexander Ogilvy of Boyne, the representative of an old and respectable branch of the noble family of Findlater. Both she and her husband were alive in 1606. The marriage-contract between Mary Bethune and Alexander Ogilvy has been published by the Maitland Club in Part I. of their Miscellany. It is subscribed by the Queen and Henry Darnley, and by the Earls of Huntly, Argyle, Bothwell, Murray, and Athole, as cautioners for the bridegroom; by Ogilvy himself as Boyne, and by Mary Bethune. The signatures of the bride's father and Michael Balfour of Burleigh, his cautioner, are wanting."

Barbara, David Pitcairn of Forthar's fourth daughter, married Sir William Murray of Letterbannachty, and was the ancestress of the great Lord Mansfield, Lord Chief Justice of England.

Her husband was descended from Sir William Murray of Tullibardine, who died about the year 1511, leaving, with other issue—

William, ancestor of the Dukes of Atholl; and

Sir Andrew Murray, who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of James Barclay of Balvaird, by whom he acquired the estates of Arngask, Balvaird, and Kippo, and was succeeded by his eldest son—

Sir David Murray, of Balvaird and Arngask, who married Janet, sister of John, fifth Lord Lindsay.

Sir David had two sons—

1. Andrew, his successor.
2. Sir William Murray of Letterbannachty.

Sir David died in 1550, and was succeeded by his elder son, Sir Andrew, who married twice, and left by his second wife, Lady Janet Graham, daughter of William, second Earl of Montrose, four sons—1, Andrew; 2, David; 3, Robert; 4, Patrick.

1. Andrew (Sir) married Margaret Crichton of Strathard. His son, Sir Andrew, dying without issue, was succeeded by his uncle David in 1624.

2. Sir David of Gospertie (second son) was served heir to his nephew, Sir Andrew Murray of Balvaird. He was cup-bearer to James VI., and a great favourite, as he had saved the King in the Gowrie conspiracy at Perth, 5th Aug. 1600. Created Lord Scone, 7th April 1605, and had a grant of the Abbey of Scone, of which the Earl of Gowrie was Com-mendator, and Viscount Stormont, 16th Aug. 1621.

We will now return to William Murray of Letterban-nachty, second son of Sir David Murray of Balvaird. He married Barbara, fourth daughter of David Pitcairn, laird of Forthar and Pitcairn. (The Duke of Atholl writes.)

There is ample evidence of this.

“William Murray and Barbara Pitcairn obtained a Papal dispensation to marry, they being in the 4th and 4th degrees of consanguinity (Laing Charters, No. 663).

“In the Great Seal Register, 10th Dec. 1553, there is a charter by Andrew Murray of Arngask, granting to his brother-german William the lands of ‘Letter Bannachty,’ in the Stewartry of Strathearn.”<sup>1</sup>

“Pope Paul IV., in a declaration by him, states that a dispensation previously obtained by William Murray and Barbara Pitcairn, within 4th and 4th degrees, was valid, though the relationship of one of the parties was erroneously stated.”

Fourth degree is probably second cousin. Henry Pit-cairn of Forthar (father of Isabelle, Lady Lindsay) was great-great-grandfather of William Murray, and great-

<sup>1</sup> Kindly communicated to me by the Duke of Atholl and Mr Lindsay, K.C.

grandfather of Barbara Pitcairn, so probably the relationship ought to have been stated as 5th and 4th, not 4th and 4th.

In 1552, 22nd Oct., Robert Pitcairn, brother to Barbara, Lady Murray, Master William Murray, Treasurer of Dublayn, and Majestro John Petcairn of Forthar, signed a deed. In folio 56, Cartulary of Dunfermline, there is a charter confirming the Lord of Tullibardine, jun., in the lands of Limekilns; but later on, in folio 280, there is a charter stating that Majestro John Pitcairn got the lands of Limekilns and Morphiesfold; but it does not state how they came into John Pitcairn's hands.

Extracts from the deeds are as follows:—

Dunfermling, 22 October 1552. Deed witnesses: "Testibus Roberto Petcarne, Mgro Willmo Murray thesaurio de Dublayn, &c. Mgro Jone Petecarne, &c."<sup>1</sup>

Carta confirmationis domini de Tullibardin junioris de terris de Lymkillis et allis.<sup>2</sup>

Carta Magistro Joannis pitcaine terrarum de lymkill et morpheisfauld.<sup>3</sup>

Carta Willielmj Murray, the lands "de Stonehous, Moyhous, et Orrock."<sup>4</sup>

Assedatio Gulielmj Murray et barbare pitcarne de terris de Blairnebothy.<sup>5</sup>

Sir William Murray<sup>6</sup> and Barbara Pitcairn his wife got the lands of *Blairnebothy* from her brother, Robert Pitcairn, as a marriage portion, and from her other brothers, John and Henry, under a charter by Queen Mary to William Murray of Letterbanachty and Barbara Pitcairn his spouse, "of the West Shadow quarter of the lands of Drumphingalle, in the Stewartry of Strathearn, which were resigned by John and Henry, sons of David Pitcairn of Forthar, in favour of the said William, dated at Edinburgh, 1564, 4th of March."<sup>7</sup>

The last we hear about them is in a deed dated at

Edinburgh, 1st November 1573, when William Murray and Barbara Pitcairn bought back Pitcairns, Perthshire, from Lord Ruthven; and in 1580, 14th January, they had a charter of South Kinkell in Perthshire.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Register of Dunfermline.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., fol. 280.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 27.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., lib. xxxii. No. 424.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., fol. 56.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxiii. No. 195.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., lib. xxxiv. No. 136.

Douglas mentions William Murray and Barbara Pitcairn his wife in his 'Baronage,' vol. i. p. 542, in which he states that "William Murray of Letterbannathy was second son of Sir David Murray of Arngask and Balvaird. Sir Andrew Murray, his brother, gave a charter of "Letterbannathy in Strathearn to William Murray, brother-german of Andrew Murray of Arngask, 14th Jan. 1553-54."

Sir William had two sons and three daughters: 1, married to Balcanquhal of Balcanquhal; 2, Bethia, to Sir William Murray of Ochtertyre; and 3, to Kinross of Cambusnethan in Strathearn.

Sir William Murray of Letterbannachty was succeeded by his eldest son, David of Balgony. This David Murray was the father of Rev. Andrew Murray, who was minister of Abdy in 1618: he succeeded at the decease of the first Lord Stormont to the baronies of Arngask and Kippo, and in 1641 was created Lord Balvaird.

Andrew was followed by his eldest son, David Murray, second Lord Balvaird, great-grandson of Barbara Pitcairn, who in 1658 succeeded to the titles of fourth Viscount Stormont and Lord Scone, on the death, in the last-mentioned year, of James Murray, second Earl of Annandale. He was succeeded in 1668 and 1669 by his son, David Murray, as fifth Viscount Stormont and third Lord Balvaird, who married Marjory, only child of David Scott of Scotstarvit, Fife; and by her had fourteen children, including their third son, the famous William Murray, Earl of Mansfield, Lord Chief-Justice of England. Barbara Pitcairn was thus Lord Mansfield's great-great-great-grandmother.

William Murray, the great Lord Mansfield, was born at Scone, March 2, 1705. Called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1730, he was a friend of Pope, became counsel in a great number of appeals, when Pope addressed him as follows:—

"Grac'd as thou art, with all the powers of words,  
So known, so honoured in the House of Lords."

He was counsel for the city of Edinburgh in the Porteous Cause, 1737, and acquitted himself so much to the satis-



faction of his clients that he was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box: he was appointed Solicitor-General in 1742, and elected member for Boroughbridge. In the House he was against the greatest of all opponents, the celebrated William Pitt, who, with a degree of candour worthy of himself, admitted that he found in Mr Murray a fair, open, and formidable rival. On the trial of the lords engaged in the Rebellion, 1745, the eloquence and judgment of Mr Murray were much admired, Lord Lovat even going the length of saying that he heard him with pleasure, though it was against his life. He was promoted to the office of Attorney-General, 1754; and, in November 1756, was raised to the office of Chief-Justice of the Court of King's Bench, in which court he presided with unrivalled reputation for the long period of thirty-two years, refusing frequently the seals—viz., 1757, 1770, and 1771. He was sworn in, Nov. 8, 1756, and the same day created a peer by the title of Baron of Mansfield, Co. Nottingham, and his issue male. Lord Mansfield held the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a seat in the Cabinet, from April 9 to July 2, 1757. He again held the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer from Sept. 12, 1767, to Dec. 1. He opposed the doctrine of general warrants (warrants without naming the persons), and finally determined against their legality, Nov. 1765. His speech in the Douglas cause, 1769, made a deep impression on the House of Lords. His lordship was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Mansfield, Co. Nottingham, Oct. 31, 1776. In the riots of 1780, Lord Mansfield was selected as one of the victims of popular violence: his house in Bloomsbury Square was set on fire by the populace; and the irreparable loss sustained by the destruction of his invaluable collection of books and manuscripts in the conflagration is to be deplored.<sup>1</sup> His career was distinguished by sound knowledge and brilliant accomplishments, a courtesy seldom ruffled, and an eloquence that never failed. Lord Mansfield resigned his seat on the bench, June 1788,

<sup>1</sup> Conolly's Fife, Burke's Peerage, Debrett, &c.





*Painted by J. S. Copley, R.A.*

*Emery Walker, Photo.*

THE EARL OF MANSFIELD, K.T.

Lord Chief Justice of England.

*b. 1705. d. 1793.*



in his eighty-fourth year, on which occasion an affectionate and pathetic address from the bar was transmitted to him by the Hon. Thomas Erskine, expressive of their loss of "one whose conspicuous and exalted talents conferred dignity on the profession, whose enlightened and regular administration of justice made its duties less difficult and laborious, and whose manners rendered them pleasant and respectable." To this Lord Mansfield, without detaining the messenger five minutes, returned an appropriate answer in these terms:—

"If I have given satisfaction, it is owing to the learning and candour of the bar; the liberality and integrity of their practice having freed the judicial investigation of truth and justice from many difficulties. The memory of the assistance I have received from them, and the deep impression which the extraordinary mark they have now given me of their approbation and affection has made upon my mind, will be a source of perpetual consolation in my decline of life, under the pressure of bodily infirmities which made it my duty to retire."

"The Earl<sup>1</sup> married, Sept. 20, 1738, Elizabeth Finch, sixth daughter of Daniel, sixth Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, and by her (who died 1784) had no issue. He died 1793.

"Having been created an English earl, with remainder to Louisa, Viscountess Stormont, on the idea then prevalent that no English peerage could be limited to a Scottish peer, he was, however (so soon as a contrary doctrine was established by law), created Earl of Mansfield, of Canewood, Co. Middlesex, by patent, Aug. 11, 1792, with remainder to his nephew."

Alison, fifth daughter of David Pitcairn, twelfth Lord of Pitcairn and Forthar-Ramsay, married Mr Stephen Richardson.

Stephen Richardson was descended from a stock of ancient and opulent burgesses. Robert Richardson, his brother, the Treasurer of Queen Mary, being a person of

<sup>1</sup> Burke's Peerage, 1869.

great wealth and credit, was, upon the favour of his integrity, made Treasurer by the Queen Regent in 1538 and also General of the Mint. He soon after got the Commandatory of St Mary's Isle, and continued as Treasurer until his death in 1571. He purchased a great estate, the barony of Smeaton (Smithton, near Musselburgh), Valleyford, which he divided between his two sons, Sir James Richardson of Smeaton, and Sir Robert Richardson of Pencaitland.

Among the charters preserved at Pitfirrane is one dated 1536, a note of which has been transcribed by Sir Arthur Halkett, and made available through the kindness of Sir Arthur and of Lord Elgin. It is as follows:—

Ane Procuratarie granted to James Richardson with consent of Mr Robert Richardson, prior of St Marie Isle his fayr, for resigning of the lands of Lymekills with the pertinents in hands of ye Commendator of Dunfermling, as superior to remain with him, and his successors as ane pairt of the Patramonie of ye Abbacie in all tyme yr efter; daitted ye 1st March 1536.<sup>1</sup>

*Letter of Mary, Queen of Scots, to Robert Pitcairn.*

In 1563 a letter was addressed by Queen Mary, then in her twenty-first year, to the Commendator (Robert Pitcairn) and Convent of Dunfermline, as follows:—

“Commendator and Convent of our Abbacy, Dunfermline, Forasmikill as we have thocht expedient for divers reassoonable causes and considerations, moving us agreeable to this present tyme, that all and sundrie the temporall lands pertaining to the said Abbacy be set in feu ferme be zow with ane consent to our weil belovit dalie servitour Maister Robert Richartson, Prior of Sanct Marie Ile, his airs and assignais, for paiment zeirlie of the malis ferme, and deweties, usit and wont content in your rentall, with agmentation as efferis, quhilk be and done salle be na hort, nor prejudice, to your said place, nor zeat to the tenantis of the ground, be ressoun, we have takin order with him on their behalffis. Quairfor ye sall not fail zie with dili-

<sup>1</sup> 1536. From the Pitfirrane Charters.

gence to extract the said infeftments off feu ferme, to be maid to the said Maister Robert Richardson, as said is, as ze will expect our speciall thankis. For we have given command to the berar to declair to you our mynd in their behalffis, at mair lentht, to quhom ze sall giff credett as to ourself. Subscrivit with our hand at Dumbartane the xviii day of July, the zeir of God, fifteen hundred and thre scoir thre zeirs" (1563).

Robert Richardson made many grants of land two years afterwards; and resigned them in favour of his tenants, amongst others to John Wellwood, to Patrick Dury, of Middle Baldrick in 1565.<sup>1</sup>

To Catherine Halkett and others 1566, of Pitliver, Breadleys, and Mill thereof,<sup>2</sup> and feu or tack given of Knock House and primrose to Patrick Halkett of Pitfurren his spouse and son, June 1559,<sup>3</sup> and of the lands of Pitferren to the Laird thereof,<sup>4</sup> a few of the Teinds of Cavill to David Pitcairn;<sup>5</sup> of 3-4th parts of Easter Pitcourthy to Catherine Sibbald and John Dury her son, 1559,<sup>6</sup> of Pitblonchie to John and Margery Fyn,<sup>7</sup> nephew and niece of Robert Pitcairn and of Mr S. Richardson.

It would seem that although Mr Richardson made the resignation referred to, he had still some beneficial interest therein, for it is mentioned "that certain grete soumes of money had been payit and debursit" by the Commendator Pitcairn to him and his niece, Alison Richardson, in consideration of which the Commendator got a right to two charters, resigned by them in his favour; and after the death of Mr Richardson, a brother-german of the Commendator, Mr John Pitcairn of Forthar, and creditor of this lady and her uncle, applied for, and obtained from the Lords in Council, on the 24th July 1579, "an act and decret assoilzieing the conventual brethrin, but ordaining letters to be direct simpliciter, charging the Keiparis and traisoris of the Common Seill of the said Abbey to append the same to the said twa charters."<sup>8</sup> These related to "the

<sup>1</sup> Cartulary, fol. 76.

<sup>2</sup> Register of Dunfermline, fol. 109.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 29.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., fol. 137.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., fol. 144.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., fol. 19.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., fol. 127.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., fol. 1, p. 278.



lands of Easter and Wester Gellat, Masterton, Roscobie, Coitt or Coats, the corn mill of Collierraw, the two Heugh Mills, the lands of Limekills, with the port of the same, and the lands called Morphiesfauld, being the only properties not parted with by the Richardsons in favour of the tenants."

One of the ports at Dunfermline was called Mill port, near the Old Meal Mill (named the Collier Row Mill), which belonged to Robert Pitcairn. Immediately below the Freight Hall, and on the declivity towards the wooded dell of Pittencrieff, which belonged to the Phins, were the Heugh Mills, three in number, of flour, of meal, and a snuff-mill, of which part remained in Chalmers's day. These Heugh Mills also belonged to Pitcairn.

A charter, dated 1575, notes the conveyance of the estate to Robert, Commendator of Dunfermline, and is signed by Robert Richardson, Commendator of St Mary's Isle.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## LORD ROBERT PITCAIRN,

THIRTEENTH LAIRD OF THAT ILK AND FORTHAR, ARCHDEAN OF ST ANDREWS, COMMENDATOR OF DUNFERMLINE, ROYAL LEGATE, SECRETARY OF STATE TO KING JAMES VI., AND AMBASSADOR TO QUEEN ELIZABETH. 1520-84.

ROBERT PITCAIRN, Archdean of St Andrews, Royal Legate, Commendator of Dunfermline, Secretary of State during the Regency and in the reign of James VI., and Ambassador at the Court of Queen Elizabeth, was born at Forthar-Ramsay in Fife in 1520. He was the second but eldest surviving son of David Pitcairn of that Ilk (twelfth laird of the baronies of Forthar-Ramsay and Downfield), and Elizabeth Dury, of the old Fife family of Durys.

His grandfather was Henry Pitcairn, eleventh laird of Pitcairn and Pitlour, and of the baronies of Downfield and Forthar-Ramsay, and his grandmother Egidia Marlville or Melville.

David Pitcairn of that Ilk had succeeded to the barony of Forthar-Ramsay on the death of his father Henry, also to the lands and barony of Downfield and the lands of Pitcairn, so that his possessions were somewhat extensive. He had also acquired Freuchy.

Kettle, or King's Kettill (as the old charters have it), is the name of the village close to the house of Forthar-Ramsay, and belonged also to the Pitcairns. In the times of Episcopacy the parish was called Loresk or Lathrisk; but about the year 1636 the parish church with manse and glebe were removed and brought to the village of Kettle: from that time the village gave its name to the parish.

The name of King's Kettill is supposed to have originated in the low grounds near the river Eden close to the village, and to have been the king's cattle-walk or pasture-ground, where was also the king's goose-dub; and a little more than a century ago the ruins of a hut were still in existence, said to have belonged to the king's herdsman. Kettle is bounded by Falkland on the west, by Markinch, Kennoway, and Scoonie (or Leven) on the south, by Ceres and Cults on the east, and by Collessie and Auchtermuchty on the north. Freuchy, which also belonged to the Pitcairns of Forthar, was close to Falkland—in fact, half-way between Falkland and Forthar. Pitcairn, their other estate, was in the parish of Leslie, more to the south. The original name of this parish was Fetkill; but when the Earls of Rothes, whose name is Leslie, became the proprietors, they gave their name to their possessions there.

This part of Fife is most lovely and very healthy. The Pitcairns built the manor-house of Pitcairn on a most beautiful high tableland, which was the royal resort for all noble games. When the kings, James IV., James V., James VI., and Queen Mary stayed at Falkland Palace, Leslie was very near to them—in fact, within a ride. The Kings and also Queen Mary were passionately devoted to all kinds of games, hawking and hunting, &c. Many a gay cavalcade of royalty and noblemen have wended their way down the Falkland road to Leslie from the old palace, to enjoy a day's sport.

Falkland Palace was begun by James III. or James IV., and finished by James V. in 1537. The earlier castle (of which no trace now remains) had been a frequent residence of Scottish royalty since the end of the fourteenth century. It was here that James V. died in Dec. 1542, broken-hearted, after his defeat on Solway Firth; nor was he consoled by the birth of his daughter Mary, but said, "It came with a lass, and will go with a lass."

Robert Pitcairn, who was born in 1520, was at the time of the king's death twenty-two years old. As his father lived within driving distance of Falkland, he would no

doubt see the king's funeral procession as it wended its way to Holyrood, to be buried beside his first wife Magdalene, daughter of Francis I. of France, who "had loved him well."

Robert Pitcairn's grandfather having married Egidia Melville, and his mother being a Dury, also one of a noted family of ecclesiastics of the time (George Durie being Abbot of Dunfermline when Robert Pitcairn was born), may explain why Robert, at quite an early age, was appointed Archdean of St Andrews, a most important appointment in those days, as St Andrews Cathedral, founded in 1159 by Bishop Arnold, was one of the largest and most magnificent in Scotland, and the Universities too were there. The cathedral remained in a state of entirety until 1560, at the time of the Reformation, when it was destroyed by an infuriated mob, excited by a sermon preached in the parish church by John Knox against idolatry.<sup>1</sup>

In front of the old Episcopal Castle of St Andrews, on an open space, the burning of George Wishart the Reformer took place, by the order of Cardinal Beaton, Archbishop of St Andrews, who was himself in turn surprised and assassinated within the walls of his castle by Norman Leslie and his associates. It may be that having witnessed Wishart's martyrdom decided Pitcairn to take the side of the Reformers.

In St Andrews Robert Pitcairn had several possessions of houses and lands, which he granted by charter to his brother John, 12th Feb. 1578. The charter says that—

The King confirmed the Charter of Mr Robert Pitcarne "Archdean of St Andrews, who with the consent of John, Archbishop of St Andrews, and the Commendator and Convent of St Andrews, for gratitude, and for services rendered, gave Mr John Pitcarne, his brother-german, his heir and assigns, the building, with gardens, trees, and land, located in the Archdeaconry and town of St Andrews. The dwelling of Henry Kayrnis, the dwelling of the Prior of Pitmoak, the dwelling occupied by David Colyng, Thomas Durie, and James Geddie, the dwelling occupied by Joseph Reid and the dwelling called the Auld Innis," &c.

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<sup>1</sup> Black's Guide to Scotland.



Held of the said Archdeaconry 4 lb. annually with precept of sasine of the said Thomas Balfour. Witness Anthonio Rutherford, Hugo Murray, Robert Duglas in Dunfermling.

At Dunfermling, 24 Mar. 1565.<sup>1</sup>

In 1551, when Robert was thirty-one years of age, he bought from his father, David Pitcairn of that Ilk,

the lands of Forthir, with towers, fortalices, manors, gardens and orchards, the lands of Dunfield, with towers, fortalices, manor, gardens and orchards in Fyffe.

Held by the said Robert and his legitimate heirs-male. If he has no children, then to go to John Pitcairn, son of the said David Pitcairn and his heirs; if he has none, then to the next heirs-male of the said David Pitcairn, held under the Queen in ward.

8th of Nov. 1551.<sup>2</sup>

His father David goes on to say in another charter, of the date 25th of Jan. 1551, that he

reserves to himself, and his wife, Elizabeth Dury, the freehold dwelling of Forthir, with some part of Dunfield, or Downfield, and a quarter of the third part of Forthir lands.

Signed at Forthir in Jan. 1551.

Robert Pitcairn became successor to George Durie in 1561, as Commendator of Dunfermline (though only Abbot by courtesy), George Durie having fled to France in 1560 during the troubles of the Reformation; and in the following year Pitcairn was appointed Commendator, at the age of forty-one, with entire control of the revenues of the Abbey.

“The monasteries were dissolved by Parliament in 1560, and therefore when Robert Pitcairn was made Commendator, the jurisdiction or power of regality, along with the lands of the monastery, devolved upon him; thus he obtained a right to its lands and rents, which he held until his death in 1584.”<sup>3</sup>

Pitcairn's official residence was situated close to the old churchyard of the Abbey, in Maygate: it is still inhabited by two families, and in perfect preservation. Dr Henderson, in his ‘Annals of Dunfermline,’ believes the house to have

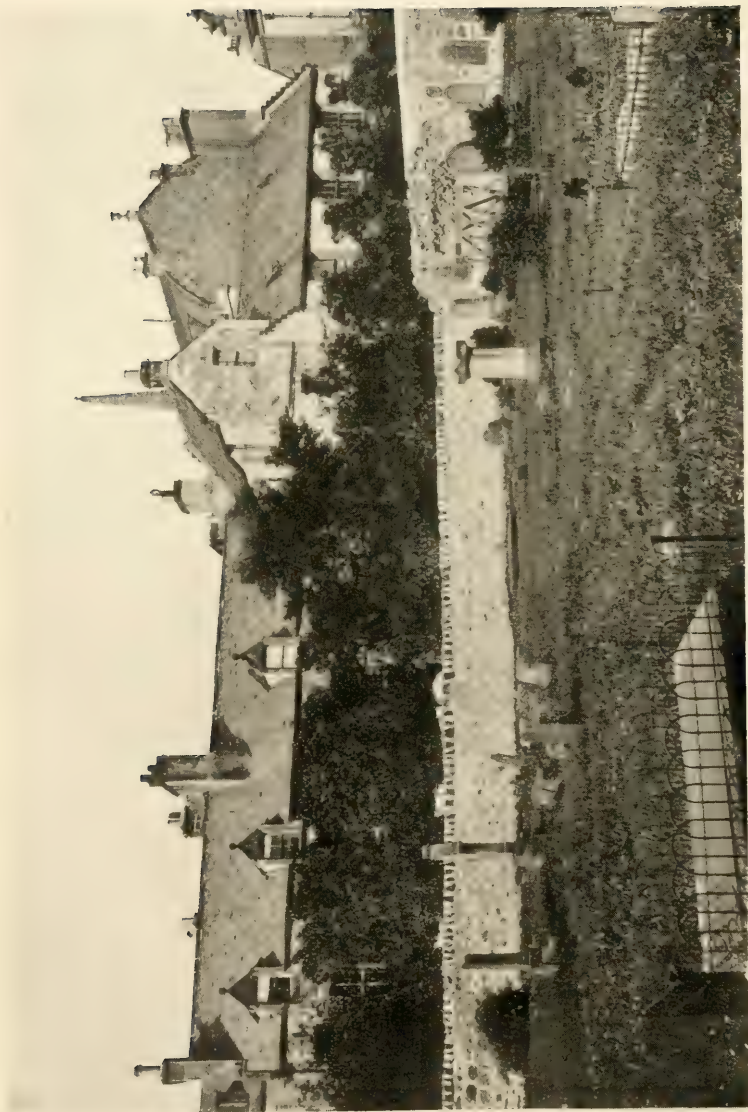
<sup>1</sup> From the Dunfermline Cartulary. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxv. No. 47.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. No. 637.

<sup>3</sup> Chambers's Gazetteer, 1842.







ABBOT PITCAIRN'S HOUSE.  
DUNFERMLINE.

been anciently a friary—probably a convent of Blackfriars—and adds that the building may date back as far as the thirteenth century. The cruciform plan may yet be traced, and the doorway in the Maygate appears to have been struck out of the north transept. A piece of ground adjoining, on the east, is mentioned in an old charter as “the Friar’s Yard or Garden.”

“The interior is divided into many small, and some curiously constructed rooms, the kitchen having a stone-vaulted roof. The staircase is a narrow winding stone one, and the story goes that some time ago, when alterations were being made, a skeleton was found built into the wall.”<sup>1</sup> The ghost of a lady is also supposed to have been seen at the entrance of the old stone kitchen by a servant some time back.

Anciently the house is said to have been occupied by the Abbots of the Monastery, and in the reign of James VI., Robert Pitcairn, Commendator, and then Secretary of State, certainly lived there when he was in Dunfermline, in attendance on the king, and on business of the Abbey. It is still called Abbot Pitcairn’s house, and is most picturesque. A noteworthy object is an old advice stone over the principal entrance, lettered as follows:—

SEN : VORD : IS : THRALL : AND : THOCHT : IS : FRE :  
KEIP : VEILL : THY : TONGE : I : COINSELL : THE.

This quaint inscription is said to have been placed there by Robert Pitcairn. The house has been known by its present name for more than two centuries.

Dunfermline is a most interesting town, and in Robert Pitcairn’s day it was a place of great importance. Dunfermline Palace was a favourite residence of James VI., indeed of all the Kings of Scotland since 1068, when Malcolm Canmore built the castle. The Saxon royal family of England, exiled from their country by the usurpation of William the Conqueror, embarked on a ship, and, driven by stress of weather, landed on the east coast

<sup>1</sup> Clark’s Guide to Dunfermline.

of Scotland. They anchored in a bay, about a mile west of Queensferry and four from Dunfermline. The Princess Margaret, when they got into this sheltered place, said, "I *hope* we shall be saved yet," and since then, this bay has been called St Margaret's Hope. It appears that the royal party went on foot to Dunfermline. King Malcolm, who had heard of their arrival and was living there, sent them a very kind invitation to stay with him, which was gladly accepted. Tradition states that Princess Margaret rested on a large stone by the way, about two miles from Dunfermline. It is still there, and called St Margaret's Stone. In 1070 Malcolm married Princess Margaret, and at her suggestion he founded the church at Dunfermline, and appointed it the place of interment for the Royal family instead of Iona.

The Abbey had three doors, the chief one at the west end being for the Royal family and nobility, the north door for the public in general. The south door had a portico and a piazza, 100 ft. in length, leading to the monastery.<sup>1</sup>

From 1112 to 1560, Dunfermline Abbey had thirty-nine abbots and commendators. The large eastern portion of the Abbey, built 156 years after the older portion, was very large, and included the Lady Chapel; the length was 189 ft. the breadth 130 ft. It was in the form of a cross, with a splendid tower, and beautiful monuments, which were completely wrecked in 1560.

A new church was built on the old foundations in 1818, costing £11,000. The Earl of Elgin laid the foundation-stone.

Malcolm III. and his Queen, Margaret, were buried in the royal sepulchre in front of the steps which lead up to the new church. Winton says:—

"Be-for the Rwde Awtare, wyth honowre,  
Scho wes layd in haly sepulture,  
Thare hyre Lord wes layd alsua  
And wyth thame hyre sownnys twa,  
Edwarde the Fyrst and Ethelred."

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<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, vol. i.

Here were buried fourteen royal personages, beside many earls and nobles. Not a vestige of these tombs remain. In the new church there is another Royal burial-place, where eleven kings and queens were buried: they include the bodies of Queen Margaret and Malcolm, which were translated in 1250.

The great interest in Dunfermline for all Scotchmen is, that it contains the burial-place of the great King Robert the Bruce. His grave is in the centre of the eastern church, below the pulpit. It is marked with a simple memorial brass. King Robert died of leprosy, May 30, 1329, at his hunting-seat near Cardross, Dumbarton, and was buried a week after in the choir of Dunfermline Abbey. The funeral was attended by "the grate, the good, and the brave of the daie, and the weeping of the multitudes insyde and outsyde the kyrke adid solemnitie to the rite."

It is stated in an old document that the great Bruce was honoured with an eloquent oration over his remains by Sir Gilbert Hamilton, one of the seven knights who kept the king's person in the battle of Bannockburn.

Before a large assembly "he made ane singulare oratyon, in mannere of deploratyon, in hys laude and commendatytone, fore he wes ane grate and naturall oratore in Englyshe, and could exprime maist matter in little room."

There are only two noteworthy monuments in the old part of the church—one, a particularly fine one, erected in 1702, by Queen Anne to William Schaw, the king's architect; and the one in the north aisle where is interred Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline, and Secretary of State to James VI.

The inscription is in Latin, cut in bold relief, with fine carving on the stone above the lettering:—

*Translation.*

TO ROBERT PITCAIRN, Commendator of Dunfermline, Archdean of St Andrews, His Majesty's Royal Legate, and Secretary of State.

Here lies in an humble tomb, ROBERT PITCAIRN, the hope and stay of his country; whom virtue, gravity of a noble breast, and



faith with true piety, adorn. After various changes in life, he passed in spirit into a better world, his mortal remains being left behind. He died on the 18th October in the year 1584, aged 64.<sup>1</sup>

When the writer visited the Abbey in 1902, the upper part of the tomb, which was beautifully carved in stone, was lying in the west porch propped against a wall. It was said that the old monument had been wilfully cut in two to make room for a stained glass window in the worst possible taste of the last century. So Goths and Vandals are often allowed to desecrate Church property as they please.

On the west wall of the transept the Dean of Westminster erected in Aug. 1876 a memorial tablet to his wife, Lady Augusta Stanley. It is of marble, beautifully chiselled by Miss Grant. The inscription is as follows:—

“To the dear memory of AUGUSTA ELIZABETH FREDERICA BRUCE, fifth daughter of THOMAS, EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, and beloved wife of ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY, Dean of Westminster.

“I love Dunfermline. I love my own, own Broomhall. Let the people of Limekilns and Charlestown never forget me.”

Immediately adjoining the tower of the Priory are the royal kitchen and the ruins of the palace. The south-west wall is all that is now left of what was once a most magnificent building. In it were born David II., 1323; James I., 1395; Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James VI., 1596 (who became Queen of Bohemia, and from whom our King is descended), and the unfortunate Charles I., in 1600.

Near the south-eastern extremity of this wall an antique piece of sculpture was discovered in 1812. It represents the angel Gabriel and the Virgin Mary. At the top is a human head and face with a crown of glory, the emblem of the Father; to the left a dove, the symbol of the Spirit, descending upon the head of the Virgin. In front of the table before the Virgin is a lily, the emblem of purity. Below, in the centre of the stone, is an armorial coat, con-

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, vol. i.

sisting of a shield, bearing a chevron between three crescents. The arms are those of the Dury family, ancient possessors of the lands of Dury in Fife, in the reign of Alexander II., and of whom George Dury, a descendant (uncle to Robert Pitcairn), was the last Abbot. The Abbot's pastoral staff surmounts the shield, and underneath is the motto "Confido." George Dury was a relation of the Regent's, and was chosen by him as one of his advisers on the death of James V. David Pitcairn of Forthar married Elizabeth Dury of Dury, as elsewhere stated.

This palace is commemorated in the old ballad of Sir Patrick Spens:—

"The King sits in Dunfermline town,  
Drinking the blude-red wine :  
'O where will I get a skeely skipper  
To sail this new ship of mine ?'

O up and spake an eldern knight  
Sat at the King's right knee :  
'Sir Patrick Spens is the best sailor  
That ever sailed the sea.'

Our King has written a braid letter,  
And sealed it with his hand,  
And sent it to Sir Patrick Spens,  
Was walking on the strand.

To Noroway, to Noroway,  
To Noroway o'er the faem ;  
The King's daughter of Noroway,  
'Tis thou maun bring her hame !"

It is supposed that the ballad is founded on authentic history, and records the melancholy and disastrous fate of the gallant band which followed in the suite of Margaret, daughter of Alexander III., when she was espoused to Eric, King of Norway.

The earliest notice of the district now traceable is found in a charter of 1098, in which King Edgar bequeathed to the Abbey Church of Dunfermline the lands of Galald or Gellet. Incidental references, such as that to the disposing of the revenues of the port of Gellet, and the con-

veyance of the possessions of the Abbey to Prior Richardson of St Mary's Isle by Queen Mary, bring us to the time when Sir William Murray of Tullibardine had a charter of the lands of "Lymekillis," the date being uncertain, though appearing in the book called the New Rental of Dunfermline Abbey—a register of business effected between 1555 and 1583. As can be seen by the sculptured stone on the "King's Cellar," Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of the Abbey, became proprietor of the Gellerts, and of the town and port of Limekilns, as of the Manor Place and Orchards connected therewith,<sup>1</sup> these details being clearly shown in existing documents, transcribed by Sir Arthur Halkett and Mr John Ross, and available through the kindness and courtesy of Lord Elgin and Sir Arthur Halkett.

"In the year 1244 the Abbot of Dunfermline, by virtue of a bull from the Pope, Innocent IV., assumed the mitre and other pontifical ornaments, and was styled 'by the Grace of God, Lord Abbot of Dunfermline,' and had a seat in the upper house of the Scottish Parliaments. Archbishops or Bishops, the Pope's Legates a Latere, Lord High Chancellors of Scotland, Secretaries of State, Lords of the Privy Council, &c., have been Abbots of Dunfermline; and 'on two occasions, the Kyngis sons have held the abbacy.'"<sup>2</sup>

Robert Pitcairn, Abbot of Dunfermline, was placed at the head of fourteen other abbots, on the Rolls of Parliament, on the 15th Dec. 1567, when the Reformed Church was legally recognised as the only National Church.<sup>3</sup>

"The spiritual and temporal rights of Dunfermline Abbey were very great—viz., the Abbot of Dunfermline was superior, or over-lord, of lands the property of others. He received the resignation of his vassals on bended knees, testifying all due humility. He had the right and privilege of holding his courts 'in the fullest manner, and giving judgment by duel, by combat, by yron, by fyre, or by water.' The Abbey was exempted from attendance at courts of law,

<sup>1</sup> Mr Reid's book on Dunfermline.

<sup>2</sup> Chalmers, *Hist. of Dunfermline*, vol. ii. p. 36.

<sup>3</sup> *Act. Parl. Scot.*, ii. 89.

which was a common burden on other subjects. If any of the men on the territories of the Abbey committed a crime, they could be taken from the Supreme Criminal Judges of the Kingdom, and brought to the Abbot's court. The men belonging to the Abbey were bound to answer for their crimes nowhere but before the Abbot and his court, in the church of the Holy Trinity of Dunfermline. The Abbot, by a bull from the Pope, was endowed with the formidable privilege of excommunication, which was used on several occasions.

“Dunfermline Abbey had very extensive possessions in churches and lands. To the Abbey belonged the following churches and chapels—viz., Abercrombie church and chapel, Bendochin, Calder, Carnbee, Cleish, Cousland, Dunipace, Dunkeld church and chapel, Killin, Kinross, Kinghorn (eastern and western), Kirkcaldy, Melville, Newlands, Newton, Newburn, North Queensferry chapel, Orwell chapel, Perth (its church of St John), Perth (its church of St Leonard), Perth (its chapel of the Castle), Stirling church and Stirling chapel of the Castle, Strathardolf, and Wymett, as also for a time the patronage of St Giles' Church, Edinburgh. Also the Abbot was superior over the priories of Urquhart and Pluscardine in Morayshire, and, at a later period, prior of Coldingham, in the shire of Berwick; and as early as the year 1170 he was Superior of the schools of Perth, Stirling, and several other schools in different parts of Scotland.”<sup>1</sup>

The monastery had a curious right to the heads of fishes in the Forth. The Crespeis were a kind of small whale.

The following is a translation of the old charter:—

Concerning the right of the Abbot and monks of Dunfermline to the heads of fishes, which are called Crespeis.

Malcolm, King of the Scots, to all good men of his whole land, clerical and lay, French and English and Scotch, health—Know ye that I have given and granted to the Abbot of Dunfermline, and to the monks serving God there, in perpetual alms, for the weal of the Soul of my predecessor King David, the heads of the fishes which are called Crespeis, except the tongue, which may be stranded in

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<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, *Hist. of Dunfermline*, vol. ii. p. 37.



my lordship from that part of Scotwater, in which part their church is situated. Witnesses, Andrew, the bishop; Duncan, the Earl; Hugh de Moreville; Walter, the son of Alan; Herbert the Chamberlain; Nicholas the Clerk; Alwyn Macarkil. At Perth.<sup>1</sup>

Showing the power of the Abbots of Dunfermline, we see what King David I. said to the Abbot of Holyrood—

“And I will that the Abbot may hold his court as freely, fully, and honourably as the Bishop of St Andrews, and the *Abbot of Dunfermline*, and the Abbot of Kelso, hold their courts.”<sup>2</sup>

Abbots received the dignified title of Lord, and were distinguished as Mitred and non-Mitred Abbots. Mitred Abbots were Lords of Parliament, and called Abbots Sovereign, and Abbots General, to distinguish them from the other Abbots. The Abbot of Dunfermline was a Mitred Abbot. The Abbot lived in great pomp in his private apartments of the Monastery, and sometimes in a separate Hall or Palace. He had servants, horses, hawks and hounds, and entertained guests at the Convent, and at his private table. He had also a chaplain, who besides his spiritual duties managed his household. Every day the monks met in the Chapter House. Every one as he entered bowed towards the place of dignity; and the Abbot, when they were all assembled, invoked a blessing upon them; prayers were then said, and a lesson read, and the names of those appointed to any services were read from the register, every one, on his name being read, bowing in token of obedience. Next the deaths were commemorated, and the Abbot, standing in his place, pronounced the absolution of the souls of the dead. Those who had been convicted of any fault were accustomed at this time to prostrate themselves upon the ground, making a humble confession, and entreating forgiveness. Punishment was sometimes inflicted on the spot by the Prior or his deputy. The business being concluded, they united in saying Psalm cxxx., *De Profundis*, unless it happened to be a High Festival, then the Abbot said, “Our Help is in the name of the

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, p. 112.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 227.



Lord," and the rest added, "Who made Heaven and Earth."

The community dined in the great hall, or refectory, at one o'clock, and the Abbot, if present, said the Blessing. During this, and their other meals, one, standing at a desk in the side of the hall, read to them out of the Holy Scriptures or some other edifying book, and they took this office by weekly turns. They also waited on each other at table, in the same rotation; having with the reader taken their meal previously. They all stood in their places until the blessing was pronounced, after which the reader, having mounted to his desk, began to read, and the rest to eat. Only two dishes were allowed, except on particular occasions, when another, called a "pittance," usually consisting of some meat, or more delicate food, was added. It was brought in after the second dish, and presented to the Abbot, or to him who presided in the Abbot's place, who caused it to be distributed. Much civility and politeness were practised. They were attentive to each other's wants, and indicated them to the cellarer, or to the brother who served. They bowed to each other on presenting or receiving anything. He to whom the Abbot, or president, sent anything, first bowed to the servant who brought it, and then, rising up a little, to the Superior who sent it. They who came into the hall too late, and without a good excuse for their delay, said a Paternoster and an Ave Maria, by way of penance, sat down at the bottom of the least-frequented table, and were not entitled to any ale or wine, without the special permission of the Abbot or president. After dinner, some went to repose, others kept up a conversation till the hour of nones, or 3 o'clock, when there was another service in the church, at the end of which they washed their hands, and sat down together in the Cloister, till, a signal being given, they entered the refectory for a few minutes to drink. At 6 o'clock they attended at vespers, or evening service.

Compline was said or sung in church after seven, and then, taking a light supper called collatio, they went to

bed. Sheets were not allowed, nor any linen, except in sickness, and they all slept in the same room, called a dormitory, but in separate beds, in their usual clothes.<sup>1</sup>

The Abbot wore red shoes, and a short cloak, and had a pastoral staff like a shepherd's crook (crosier).

To return to Robert Pitcairn. It would be difficult to write his life, and show his reasons for the side he took in politics, in religion, and in the history of his country, without writing a short *résumé* of events which were taking place before his appointment as Commendator of Dunfermline, and on the eve of his political career.

Queen Mary landed at Leith, as sovereign of Scotland in her own right, on the 19th Aug. 1561.

Pitscottie says: "The Queine maid hir entres in Edinburgh as the lyk was not seine befor, shoe was so gorgeouslye and magnificentlie received."

Parliament met on the 26th of May 1563, and sat until the 4th of June, and Robert Pitcairn went up for it.

"Mary rode to the Parliament from Holyrood, accompanied by her ladies, the Duke of Chatelherault carrying the Crown, the Earl of Argyll the Sceptre, and the Earl of Murray the Sword. The address was written in French and translated and spoken by her in English. Her beauty and grace excited the loyal feelings of the citizens, who exclaimed as she passed to and fro to Parliament, 'God save that sweet face!' The same day the Queen gave a great banquet in Holyrood."<sup>2</sup> Pitcairn, as Commendator and Abbot of Dunfermline, would of course be present at the opening of Parliament, and at the banquet afterwards, with the young and lovely Queen presiding at it.

On the 6th of March 1563-64 the Queen left Holyrood, and after residing at Perth, Falkland, and St Andrews, she returned to Holyrood about the middle of May.

The 8th of Sept. 1564, Matthew, Earl of Lennox, the father of Lord Darnley, came back from his twenty-two years' exile in England. He arrived at Holyrood on

<sup>1</sup> Morton's Annals, pp. 292-294.

<sup>2</sup> History of Holyrood. J. Rankin.

the 27th of Sept., riding to the Palace preceded by twelve gentlemen splendidly mounted, and clothed in black velvet, followed by thirty attendants bearing his arms and livery.

He gave the Queen "a marvellous fair and rich jewel, a clock, a dial curiously wrought and set with stones, and a looking-glass very richly set with stones in the four metals; also to each of the four Marys such pretty things as he thought fittest for them."<sup>1</sup>

Lord Darnley was with his mother, the Countess of Lennox, in England at this time. On the 3rd of Dec., the second day of the meeting of Parliament, Mary recommended the reversal of the forfeiture of Lennox, who on the same date was restored to his estate and honours. The Countess of Lennox was Margaret Douglas, daughter of Margaret, widow of James IV., who married for the second time Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus: therefore the Countess of Lennox was half-sister to James V., consequently aunt to Queen Mary.

Mary left Holyrood for Fife on the 19th of Jan. 1564-65, stayed at St Andrews till the 11th of Feb., when she crossed to Leven, and on the 13th she rode to Wemyss Castle, then inhabited by the Earl of Murray.

"She was magnificently banquetted everywhere, so that such superfluity was never seen before within this realme, which caused the wilde fowle to be so dear that partridges were sold for a crown apiece."<sup>2</sup>

Lord Darnley left London for Scotland, bringing with him Queen Elizabeth's letter of recommendation, and a diamond ring from his mother to Mary her niece. When Darnley arrived at Wemyss Castle, Sir James Melville states<sup>3</sup> that Mary "took very well" with her visitor; the Queen said to him (Melville) that "Darnley was the properest and best-proportioned long man that ever she had seen." Darnley was then only nineteen, four years younger than Mary.

The marriage was arranged at a meeting of the Privy

<sup>1</sup> History of Holyrood. J. Rankin.

<sup>2</sup> Knox's Works, ii. 471.

<sup>3</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs.

Council (of whom Pitcairn was one) at Stirling, on the 15th May 1565, when the Queen was present.

The Queen married Lord Darnley on Sunday, the 29th of July, at the Chapel Royal, Holyrood. From that time a series of conspiracies ensued, headed by the Earl of Murray, who was at last compelled to retire to England. Earl Bothwell, in consequence, was able to return from France, and was present at a meeting of the Privy Council on the 5th of Nov. Now began the downfall of the unfortunate Queen of Scots.

First came the assassination of Rizzio, in the presence of the Queen, contrived by Darnley and his father, the Earl of Lennox. In March 1565-66 Mary rode from Holyrood to the Tolbooth, near St Giles' Church, to open Parliament, Darnley refusing to accompany her. The Lords of the Articles were chosen there, of whom Pitcairn was one.

On the evening of Saturday, the 9th of March, 500 persons surrounded the Palace. The Earl of Morton and Lord Lindsay kept guard without, and 160 men occupied the court. Mary was having supper at about seven with six friends, when the King came in and threw his arms round her. Then Lord Ruthven stalked in, in armour and ghastly pale, with the pallor of recent sickness and rage. The tramp of heavy feet came up the stair, and Ker of Faldonside, George Douglas of Arbroath, and several others rushed in, with torches and gleaming daggers, so rudely that the table was dashed on the floor. Darnley used his strength to detain the Queen, whilst George Douglas snatched the King's dagger from the sheath, and stabbed Rizzio with it over the Queen's shoulder. They then dragged the wretched man from the room, stabbing him as they went, until he fell at the head of the stairs pierced by fifty-six wounds. Mary sat trembling in the turret room till one of her ladies brought her word he was slain. She dried her tears and exclaimed, "Is it so? Then I shall study revenge."

The Queen was then kept a close prisoner, and Darnley assumed regal power.



James VI. was born in Edinburgh Castle on the 19th of June 1566. Darnley refused to enter Holyrood unless the Earls of Murray, Argyll, Rothes, Secretary Maitland of Lethington, and some other officers of State were dismissed, and he declared he would leave the country and would go abroad.

The following day, the Privy Council (Pitcairn being one of the number) met in the Queen's apartments, and argued with him on the folly of going. He denied he had any intention of doing so, abruptly retired from the Privy Council, saying to Mary, "Adieu, madam, you shall not see me for a long time;" and to the Privy Council, "Adieu, gentlemen." This was the last time he was in the Palace.

On the 11th of Dec. the Queen left Holyrood for Stirling Castle, to be present at the baptism of her son; and from the entry in the Cartulary of Dunfermline, Robert Pitcairn went to the baptism, 13th Jan. 1567.

Then came the terrible murder of the youthful Darnley, committed by that ferocious and wicked man, the Earl of Bothwell, by blowing up the house Kirk o' Field, where Darnley was lying sick.<sup>1</sup> Mary's degradation was now about to be accomplished. Bothwell with 800 horsemen seized her person near Almond Bridge, about six miles from Edinburgh, when she was returning from Stirling. He conveyed her to his castle of Dunbar. Two days afterwards he commenced his divorce against his wife, Lady Jane Gordon. His marriage was annulled at St Andrews on the 7th of May.

After a brief residence in Dunbar Castle with the man universally accused of the murder of her husband, Mary rode with him to Edinburgh. The Queen entered the city by the West Bow, with Bothwell, the infamous Bothwell, on foot, leading her horse by the bridle,—a sight witnessed with the deepest sorrow by the Queen's friends.

On the 12th of May the Queen created Bothwell Duke of Orkney and Marquis of Fife. Then followed the marriage, and on Thursday the 15th the unhappy nuptials were

<sup>1</sup> See account in Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, vol. i. p. 493.

celebrated in the Palace, at four in the morning. Bothwell treated the Queen with great unkindness,—she was so unhappy that she was heard to say she wished she had a knife to kill herself with,—and now began the crisis of her fate.

On the 11th of June she fled to the castle of Dunbar disguised as a page, and on the 12th a proclamation, following an Act of the Privy Council, summoned the lieges to convene from all the principal towns to liberate the Queen from the thralldom of the detested Bothwell.

Her army, though willing to support the Queen, was reluctant to fight for her husband. Mary surrendered herself to the confederate nobility, at Carberry Hill near Musselburgh, on the 15th of June 1567, and she never saw Bothwell again: he died in exile abroad. Mary, now captive to her own subjects, was conveyed on the 16th of June to Lochleven Castle, by the Lords Ruthven and Lindsay.

Thus did the unfortunate Queen say adieu to the Palace of Holyrood, that was never again to be graced with the beauty of her presence and the lustre of her wit.

In Lochleven Castle she was detained for nearly a year. When there the Lords of the Secret Council despatched Lord Lindsay, the sternest of the insurgent nobles, to compel her to renounce the Crown in favour of her son.

Mary, though desolate and depressed, displayed extreme reluctance to acquiesce in this extreme measure, and Lord Lindsay, with a brutal unmanliness that ill became the chivalry of his house, squeezed the arm of the lovely Queen in his iron grasp (so it is stated), to compel her to subscribe to the deed of renunciation.

On the 2nd of May 1568 she escaped from Lochleven. The boat is said by general tradition to have put ashore on the lands of Coldon at the south-west side of the lake; from there the Queen was conducted by Lord Seton to Niddry Castle near Winchburgh. The keys of the castle were found in the lake long afterwards (where they were thrown by Mr Douglas), by a young man of

Kinross, who presented them to Lord Morton, and they are still preserved at Dalmahoy near Edinburgh. The castle itself is now a ruin:—

“Naked stand the melancholy walls,  
Lash'd by the wintry tempests, cold and bleak,  
That whistle mournful through the empty halls,  
And piecemeal crumble down the tow'rs to dust.”

The Queen's beauty and the gentleness of her manners were fresh in the memory of all, and her errors were almost obliterated by the severity of the punishment that followed, though even her own agent in England had written to her before her marriage that “if she married that man, she would lose the favour of God, her own reputation, and the hearts of all England, Ireland, and Scotland.” Notwithstanding this, her beauty, her grace of manner, her generosity of temper and warmth of affection, her sensibility and gaiety, her womanly tears and manlike courage, the flashes of poetry that broke from her at every intense moment of her life, flung a spell over friend or foe which only deepened with the lapse of years. Even to Knollys, the sternest Puritan of his day, she seemed in her captivity to be “a notable woman.” When the Queen escaped from Lochleven Castle, multitudes rushed to arms, but owing to the Regent Murray's promptitude (who had returned from exile during her captivity), and the rashness of her own army, she was defeated at the battle of Langside, on the 13th of May, and fled to Carlisle, after having ridden ninety miles, and crossed the Solway in a small boat.

Bothwell was then tried for the murder of Darnley; and the Tolbooth of Edinburgh was the place appointed for the trial, before the Earl of Argyll, hereditary Lord High Justice, and four assessors—Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline; the Lord Lindsay; Mr James MacGill, and Mr Henry Balnaves.

The Regent Murray then advanced charges of murder and adultery against Mary, which she refused either to answer, or to abdicate in favour of her son.

After Queen Mary's surrender at Carberry Hill, 15th

June 1567, Robert Pitcairn was appointed a Lord of the Articles; and on the 29th of July he was present, as one of the Privy Council, at the Coronation of the young King at the Kirk at Stirling (Reg. P. C. Scot., i. 537) in 1567. On the 2nd June 1568, the Commendator of Dunfermline was appointed an ordinary Lord of Session, when Lord James Murray was Regent of the kingdom. The King was then two years old, and, in September of the same year, Robert Pitcairn was made an Extraordinary Lord of Session, and one of the principal Commissioners to accompany the Regent Murray to the conference with the English Commissioners at York, in reference to charges against Queen Mary.

In the Cartulary of Dunfermline<sup>1</sup> there is an interesting entry as follows :—

“The Commendator of Dunfermline protests against any enquiry being made into the character or conduct of Queen Mary, because such would necessarily tend to her dishonour, and prove them exceedingly ungrateful.”

(Signed) James (Regent) Morton,  
Patrick Lindsay,

at the Orchard, Dunfermline, Nov. 26, 1569.

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<sup>1</sup> Register of Dunfermline Abbey.



## CHAPTER IX.

ROBERT PITCAIRN MADE SECRETARY OF STATE TO KING  
JAMES VI. AND AMBASSADOR TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

IN 1568 the great Murray was settled as Regent : although he found Maitland, and others, conspiring against him, he still continued to be lenient to his former friends.

He determined to send Ambassadors to the English Court, and in the end decided to go himself, and chose James Douglas, Patrick Lindsay of the nobility ; the Bishop of Orkney, and the Abbot of Dunfermline (Pitcairn) of the clergy ; lawyers, members of the College of Justice, James MacGill and Henry Balnaves, and to these a ninth was added, George Buchanan. Murray met the English Ambassadors at York, also Queen Mary's Commissioners, but nothing was done. He then went with the rest to London. When there, he refused to bring an accusation against his sister, Queen Mary, unless the Queen of England, on her detection, would take the party of the young King under her protection.

On the 18th of September a Commission passed the Great Seal of Scotland in the name of the young King, appointing the Regent Murray, the Lord-Chancellor Morton, Adam, Bishop of Orkney, Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermling, and Patrick, sixth Lord Lindsay of the Byres, or any three of them, his ambassadors, to meet with the commissioners of Queen Elizabeth at York, or any other place or places they shall think convenient, there amply to declare the reasons of their arming against, their detaining, and deposing, the Queen ; that the justice of their cause might be manifested to the world.

During the process at the board of commissioners, Wood laid

before those of England a declaration signed by the Regent, the Earl of Morton, the Bishop of Orkney, Lord Lindsay, and the Abbot of Dunfermling, affirming, upon their honours and consciences, that the silver box papers, all but one written by the Earl of Huntley, and signed by Mary, were of her writing.<sup>1</sup>

On the day appointed the Regent produced the *Silver Casket*, which the Queen had given to Bothwell.

“In it were letters in the Queen’s own hand in French, written to Bothwell, a French song by her, and three contracts of marriage—the first, written by Mary’s own hand, before the murder, in which she engages to marry Bothwell when released from her former husband; the next, before the divorce of his former wife, in Bothwell’s handwriting; the third done openly at the time of the marriage, all which being exhibited and read in Council, the whole crime was so evident, that no doubt could possibly remain with regard to the author.”<sup>2</sup>

Queen Elizabeth wrote that she proposed three alternative conditions:—

*One.* That the Queen of Scots should be restored to rank and power.

*Two.* She should reign jointly with her son, and the power to remain with the Regent.

*Three.* That the Queen should live privately, content with those honours which should be granted to her.

The Regent and his coadjutors then returned, and summoned a conference at Stirling. The answer by the Council and nobles at Stirling was to refuse all but the third proposal.

“Robert Pitcairn, a man of equal wisdom and fidelity, was sent to carry this answer back to England.

“Pitcairn having executed his Commission and embassy, according to the Regent’s wish, returned, and informed him that Queen Elizabeth was highly gratified with his conduct in tranquillising the borders.”<sup>3</sup>

The Regent’s services, she promised, would always be remembered, nor would she desert him in his difficulties,

<sup>1</sup> Guthrie’s History.

<sup>2</sup> Buchanan’s Hist. of Scot.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

and he might command the entire strength of England if requisite.

The adverse faction, finding the Regent supported by Elizabeth, conspired against his life — James Hamilton, nephew of the Archbishop of St Andrews, promising to perpetrate the deed at Linlithgow. The Regent was told of the plot, but would not alter his plans: he was shot at there, from a wooden balcony, when he was riding through the town.

Murray leaped from his horse and walked to his lodgings; but his wound being mortal, he settled his family affairs, commended the King to those who were present, and without having uttered one harsh expression, he died before midnight, 23rd Jan. 1570. His death was a great loss. He had a wonderful felicity in transacting business, and was just and lenient. The common people wept for him who, they declared, had made the safety of their country.

His house, like a holy temple, was free from all impiety and improper conversation. At dinner and supper a chapter was always read from the Holy Scriptures. His liberality was great. In his domestic circle he was distinguished by frankness and simplicity. By his uprightness of manners and the purity of his life, he was dear to, and venerated by, not only his own countrymen, but by strangers and foreign nations, especially the English, to whom his virtues were more particularly known in every variety of fortune. He was buried in St Giles' Cathedral.

Queen Elizabeth had received Wood with much disdain, saying he was a low-bred man, and asking for some one of higher rank to supply his place; therefore Pitcairn, Abbot of Dunfermline, a man of greater consideration, was chosen by the Lords to go to England instead.

Morton and his party, to quicken the motions of Drury, represented themselves and their cause as on the brink of ruin, and sent Pitcairn, Abbot of Dunfermling, to renew the negotiations for delivering Mary into their hands; but this project broke off, by Elizabeth pretending that Pitcairn was not authorised to give securities for Mary's safety in Scotland. During this transaction, Mary's lords

received a considerable reinforcement of arms, ammunition, and money from the Duke of Alva; and fresh assurances from the Court of France. This determined the Earl of Sussex to put Drury's army into motion, but not till the Earls of Morton, Mar, and Glencairn, with the lords Lindsay and Ruthven, had given hostages for their performing whatever should be entered into between Elizabeth and Pitcairn.<sup>1</sup>

Three days before the Regent Murray's death the Earl of Lennox had written to Pitcairn as follows:—

*Letter of MATTHEW, EARL OF LENNOX, to LORD ROBERT PITCAIRN, Commendator of Dunfermling, Secretary of State, Ambassador from Scotland at the Court of Queen Elizabeth.*<sup>2</sup>

After our maist hertlie commendations. Abeit we dout not it is the meaning of the queens majestie that the abstinence salbe weil and sincerelie kept in this realme during the tyme aggreit unto zit sic observation as the adversares has used sen the subscribing of the last abstinence, ye may persave by the particulars following— First, the detention of James Craik messenger quha was takin of before at Dumbartone, executand the Kingis lettres, and carit to Dunnune in Ergile, quhair he has bene detenit in miserable prisoun in irlis by the space of sax or sevin oulkis bipast, and zit not relevit, quhair of we haif at divers tymes heiretofore adverteist.

Item the young lard of Garleis past laitlie in Galloway with a few men in favour of our nepho lord Robert Stewart commendator to Quhithorne to fortifie officeris of armes in execution of the King's lettres past at the instance of our said nepho quha was providit to that benefice before we acceptit this chaarge of Regis wark, and without ony provocation made by the said laird of Garleis, or uther occasioun given . . . assisting to the proclamation & using of the saids lettres, he was assaultit in the hous quhair he remains in the toun of Quhithorne, by Patrik Flemyng and the garnesoun intertynete by the Lord Flemyng within the hous of Congiltoun, and thair in his defence twa of his servandis cruellie slane, thrie deidlie hurt in perell of thair lyffis, and at the same thare wes takin furth of the stabill sex horses, whilkis the personis being in the said hous of Congiltoun retenis or hes disponsit upon thame at thair plesour. But sensyne (as we ar newlie informit) thay haif slane his principall servand that went with him, and hes takin and detenis himself as presoner.

<sup>1</sup> Buchanan's Hist. of Scot.

<sup>2</sup> The original letter is in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, 29. 3. 12, folio 211b.



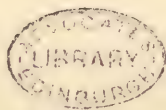
Item Claude the Duikis sone, and utheris of the Hammiltouns declarit traittours, hes by proclamatioun dischaigrit not onlie to answer James Cwnninghame sone to the Erle of Glencairne, pensioner of Kelso, to be answerit of his pensiou quhilk is assignit to be payit to him of the fruites and rentis of Lesmahago, Bot als thay haif appointit Williame Hammiltoun, broder to Robert Hammiltoun of Inchemachan as chalmerlane to thame to intromet and tak up the said pensiou to thare use, and hes compellit the tennentis to lay in alsweel there fermes as teindis alreadie in the castell of Draffen.

Item thay have by force compellit the lord sempillis tennentis of his barony of Glasfurde, to mak payment to thame of thare haill rentis and dewiteis of the said baronie. The said Lord being still keipit as prisoner with thame, quhome thay haif laitlie conveyit furth of Ergile to Draffen.

Item thay haif used the lyk compulsioun and force aganis the tennentis of the Larde of Cwnninghame heidis landis of Camplair and of the laird of Glenberveis landis of Braidwod; constrenand the tennentis to mak payment to thame of the rentis thairrof, and to lay in thair reddiest victuallis in the said castell of Draffen.

Item upone Weddnisday the xvi of Januar instant the said Claud Hammiltoun accompanit with Johne Hammiltoun of Drunnry sone to the bischope of Sanctandrois, Arthur Hammiltoun of Myrretoun and others of that name with a noubmer of soldiouris, come and by force enterit in the abbay and place of Paislay pertening to the Lord Sempill now being presoner and captive in thair handis, and hes takin sum of his freindis and servandis presoneris, and reft, spoilzeit and away takin his horses and utheris guidis being thair, and put a garrysoun in the same place and abbay, Tending to retene and keip it by force, the same being and continuing in the possession of the said lord Sempill since the Disposition maid to him thereof efter the forfaulture orderlie led als weill againis the said Bischope of St Androis usufructuar and lyve rentar of that benefice as agains the said Claud Hammiltoun nominat successour to the same, and sensyne the said Bischope in persoun hes cum to the said abbay, and thair fensit and hauldin courtis in name of the quene, the king's grace moder, minassing the tennentis that he wilbe payit of thre yeiris rentis bigane, and hes alredie begune and spoiled and reft divers horses and guidis furth of the grund of my awin proper landis of Dernlie and Camklystoun.

Thir sa frequent and manifest violations of the abstinence acceptit now quhen his majestie willit the same to be maist sincerelie observit (as it hes bene on our pairt) declairis how lichtlie fayth honour and promise is regairdit by that race and factioun. Quhat thay intend farther nochtwithstanding the assurance and how thai



haif maid provocation by armes and utherways to us to revenge thir attemptatis and seik amends the best we may befor thay proceed to forder interpryssis in prejudice of the king and to our disadvantage.

All this we pray you declair unto the Quenis Majestie, lettand hir hienes vnderstand quhat greit harme we daylie sustene under this abstinence, quhilk we not onlie agreeit unto at her hienes desyre, bot als to the suspensioun of the parliament nochtwithstanding the wechtie materis concernyng the kingis estait that wer to be intreated therein, useand all the expeditioun that possible we can, in dispatching of commissioners toward hir majestie for hir forther satisfacioun in onything lying in us, not doubting bot hir majestie will consider this dealling of our adversaries to be purposlie used to stay hir order and resolution intendit and how we upon thir provocaciouns and manifest injuries, haif just caus to seik the revenge tharof the best way we may.

Albeit heirtofore we wrait unto you that the commissioneris suld be thair agane Candilmes, zit sic hes bene the delay of the noble mennis convening at the occasioun of the storme and tempestuous wether, and sa wechtie the materis to be deliberat and quheirupone thay mon cum instructed, the wether still thairwithal continewing sa evill, and traueilling sa difficill that we traist it sall be about Candilmes befor thay can be abill to depairt frome this, off the quhilk we thocht meit to gif you knowlege, that ye may excuse the delay the best ye can.

Furthermore ze sall understand that the adversaries not onlie attemptis thir murthuris and injureis aganis the effect of the abstinence, Bot als perswadis all men that the twa quenis ar fullie agreed, that we dar not pas in the west cuntrie nor resist ony of thair interpryses as thocht we wer tyit in this toun, quhair indeid we haif bene constrainit to remane langar nor our meaning wes, partlie by ressoun of our infirmitie, and partlie for the suspension of the parliment, and dispatche of my lord of Morton, Swa as ye may declair unto hir majestie, the greit wraik and skaith that we daylie sustene under this abstinence quhilk we haif beene sa willing heirtofore to observe at hir majesties motion and desyre.

And finalie we pray you to expeid the money for payment of the meny weir how sone possible ze can, for swa is mister, considering the thingis ellis attemptit by the adversaries and thair apperand preparation to work further mischief, we haif haid mekle ado to stay our suddertis ane day efter this without payment at leist of a moneths wageis in hand, and without difficultie hes perswadit thame for a verie schort tyme opone promise the same day of half a monethis wageis quhilk we traist sall be hard anewch

to do. And ye know thair hes not bene gretar necessitie of thair service nor now quhilk we dout not bot zour pairt ye will regaird with als greit cair as the mater twechis us all indeid. The gretar expeditioun in this behalf be visit the mair acceptabill will the thing be that cumes. And sa leiffing forther writting to new occasioun we commit you in the protectioun of Almychtie God at Edinburgh the xxij of Januar 1570.

As the Earl of Lennox's letter to Robert Pitcairn was written in January of 1570, Pitcairn must then have again been sent Ambassador to Elizabeth's Court, for repressing the common enemy, and in order to show the regard of the Scots for her, they also proposed to elect a Regent according to her wish.

Sir James Melville writes<sup>1</sup>:—

Returning back from Berwick, I met the Abbot of Dunfermling, sent by the King's Lords to England, to meet with the Earl of Lennox in his passing by. His chief Commission was (so far as I could afterward inform myself) to desire the Queen of England to deliver the Queen of Scotland to be kept by the King's Lords here at home, seeing that she would not proceed otherwise, according to the accusation given in against her the time my Lord Murray was there. Wherefore the Queen of England made answer, "If they would find her sufficient pledges for the security of the Queen's life, she would deliver her to be kept by them." The Abbot alleged, "That would be hard to do, for what in case the Queen dye in the meantime?"

She answered, "My Lord, I believed you had been a wise man, and that you would not press me to speak what is no ways necessary. You may know, that I cannot but for my honour require Pledges for that end, I think you may judge also of your self what might be best for me."

Her meaning in this might be easily judged and understood.

In the Calendar of State Papers, May 20, 1570, are the following entries:—

1570, *May 20*, Kingston. Robert, Commendator of Dunfermline, to Cecil. . . . Reminds him of the anxiety of the Lords for some certain resolution in the matters committed to him, and of the necessity of paying the £2000 owing to the 200 harquebussiers who served the late Regent.

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<sup>1</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs.

*May 20*, Berwick. Earl of Sussex to Sir William Cecil. Letters of the Earl of Morton, &c., to the Commendator of Dunfermline. No force is levying against the Queen of England's troops, so they do what they will; but they hear that the French are looked for presently.

Pitcairn returned from the English Court with the Queen of England's answer.

"The Queen was astonished that now, in the fourth month after the Regent's death, she had for the first time been made acquainted with the state of affairs. Worn out by daily complaints of the Queen of Scots, she had promised to give her cause a hearing, but upon condition that hostilities were to be stopped and the English Exiles returned. On these conditions she promised a conference; but having bound herself by this agreement, she could not be a party to create a Regent, lest she should seem to prejudice the cause of the Queen of Scots without hearing it."

Not knowing what to do when they received this answer, the Council decided for the present to elect an inter-Regent to govern the country for the time being, and created Matthew, Earl of Lennox, grandfather to the King, inter-Regent.

Whilst they endeavoured to quieten the kingdom, on the 10th of July letters came very opportunely from the Queen of England, in which, with many expressions of regard towards the King and kingdom of Scotland, she said "she knew of no person who ought to be preferred before the King's grandfather to that office, because no one could be asked who would be more faithful to the pupil as a minor, and who, besides, had the preferable right."<sup>1</sup>

Encouraged by these letters, the Earl from inter-Regent was declared Regent by the unanimous suffrages of the Estates. When Lennox was chosen Regent, Maitland then severed himself from the King's party, and Pitcairn was chosen to succeed him as Secretary.

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of State Papers for Scot., entries 1393, 1404; addition to the Register from Haddington MS.





1870

1870

I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the matter of the  
 making for delivery to you of a copy of the same. The same has been forwarded to you by the  
 express of the 15th inst. and you will find it in the hands of the express agent at your place.  
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
 Yours, very truly,  
 J. B. Abbot

11.

Having heard that Queen Elizabeth was dissatisfied, the Regent and Council made amends by more distinct statements of their policy, and by appointing one of the ablest of their own number, Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline, as an envoy to the English Court, for due explanations, &c.<sup>1</sup> Pitcairn cannot have started before the beginning or after the middle of September, events in England being favourable to his embassy. He was despatched with the consent of a General Convention of Nobles, with the approval of the Privy Council. On the 29th of Nov. he had an interview with Queen Elizabeth.

The Queen of England wrote to the Regent as follows:—

“The quene of England do schew fair countenance to either partie, as by her answer given to the Commendator of Dunfermling (Pitcairn), who was send befor, and his owin letter short before send to the Regent, may appeir. . . .”

Then she wrote a long letter to Robert Pitcairn touching the Restitution of Mary Queen of Scots, ending with: “And considering the guid opinione hir Majestie hath conceived of the discretion and sinceritie of the said Abbot Pitcairn, she wished him to be present with such as come for that purpose.

ELIZABETH R.

7 Dec. 1570.”

And in Bannatyne's Memorials Queen Elizabeth says: “Observe the peace betwixt the realms of England and Scotland in tyme cuming, &c., agreed upon by the queine's maiestie her counsall and officiaris on that ane pairt, and Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermling, Ambassador for the King's Maiestie in Scotland, on that ither pairt.”

The following are the entries from the Dunfermline Register:—

*July 4*, Stirling. “Earl of Morton to Sir Frances Walsyngham” (one of Elizabeth's statesmen). Sorry for his absence from Court. Thanks him for certain advice to their ambassador, my Lord (the Abbot) of Dunfermline.

<sup>1</sup> Buchanan's Hist. of Scot.

*July 30.* Demands of the Commendator of Dunfermline, Ambassador from the King of Scots to the Queen of England.<sup>1</sup>

Pitcairn returned to Edinburgh on the 15th Dec. 1570.

1571, *Feb. 4.* Answer to the Notes of the injuries alleged to have been done by the Queen of Scotland's party, since the granting of the last abstinence.

*Feb. 8.* Reply to the same, made by the Abbot of Dunfermline and the Commissioners, on the part of the King of Scots.<sup>2</sup>

Late in December, when it was impossible any longer for Lennox and his Council to avoid definite recognition of the negotiations in progress and of Elizabeth's wishes, than had been signified by the presence of a single Commissioner and representative in the person of Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermling and Secretary of State, the Convention of Estates appointed a larger embassy, Lord Morton as Commissioner in Chief, with Secretary Pitcairn and Clerk of Register MacGill as his associates, and, having voted a Taxation of £12,000 for the expenses of the Embassy, Lord Morton, Pitcairn, and MacGill left Edinburgh 5th February 1571.<sup>3</sup>

When they returned a Parliament was assembled at Stirling, to whom Lord Morton gave a summary account of his embassy as follows:—

When we arrived in London on February 20th, having been referred by the Queen of England to seven commissioners, chosen from her Council, we were asked to explain the reasons of our proceedings during the past years, and support them by such arguments that should satisfy her of the justice of our cause.

Then Lord Morton stated in full what they replied in the Memorial they drew up as to the crime of their King's mother, and why she was deposed. On the last day of February, it was read before the learned and virtuous men appointed by the Queen to confer with us, and we gave them a copy to lay before Her Majesty.

Next day, March 1st, we went to court again in the morning, to learn not only what was the Queen's opinion of our Memorial but of the whole cause.

But as Her Majesty was about to set out to her country seat, three miles below London near the village of Greenwich, we had no opportunity of seeing her.

Then, as a next resource, we had a conference with the noblemen of her Council, with Cecil (now Lord Burleigh), also separ-

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of State Papers for Scot., entries 1393, 1404. Bannatyne's Memorials.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of State Papers.

<sup>3</sup> Haddington MS., p. xxi, 1541-71.



ately with Bishop Leslie, Bishop Gordon, and Lord Livingston, who told us she had read our representations, but she was not quite satisfied as to the justice of our cause. We replied we had no liberty to enter into any discussion which could tend to lessen the prerogative of the King.

Such being the state of the negotiations, we sent some of our number to her to Greenwich to learn if she had anything to do with us, and if not, to procure leave for us to depart and return home to meet Parliament, and transact our private business, at the same time to assure Her Majesty of our desire to oblige her, and it would be better in our power to do so at home, than when residing in a foreign country.

This urgency procured us an order to attend at Court on the 5th of March. We contended that the equity of our cause had been clearly established.

Next day we went to the Queen's palace as arranged, and heard what her counsellors had to propose. After hearing them, we asked them to give it us in writing, which they did.

Accordingly next day Robert Pitcairn was sent with this answer : That the subject came under the cognizance of the Estates, and could not be discussed by so small a number as we were, and the day after, March the 9th, he returned to Court with the same in writing, having been desired the day before to do so ; at the same time he earnestly entreated the Queen to allow us to return home.

On March 20th we were recalled to Court, when the Queen, ordering us to be introduced, addressed us in the following terms :—

She had examined our answer, and clearly perceived that none but the Supreme Council of the Scots could give any certain answer. Therefore as she was told there would soon be a meeting of Parliament, a Committee should be chosen, composed of both parties, and she would also send commissioners. . . .

The matter was still protracted from day to day, till the Queen returned to London the last day of March ; at last on the 4th of April she sent for us, and having apologized for the delay, she informed us that the mother of our King had written a sharp letter to her Ambassadors for their presumption in treating of her cause as they had done ; wherefore since she violently opposes the method of bringing about a peace I proposed, I shall not longer detain you, but if she should repent and accept of my proposal, I do not doubt you will do your duty.

Thus at last we were dismissed kindly and courteously, and on the 8th of April set out for home.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Buchanan's Hist. of Scot., vol. ii. p. 601.

This account having been given to the nobles at Stirling, they unanimously approved of the diligence and fidelity of their ambassadors.

Soon after this, in a fight at Edinburgh between the rival parties, the Regent was wounded and died. John, Earl of Mar, was appointed Regent in his place. He was good and kind, but wanting in energy, and died (from illness brought on by the vexations and cares of a public life) at Stirling on the 29th of Oct. 1572. On his death, the Earl of Morton, supported by the interest of England, was elected to that high office on the 24th of Nov. A.D. 1572.

A meeting then took place at Perth, between the Earl of Argyll, Montrose, Pitcairn, Lords Ruthven and Boyd, and Sir John Bellenden, Clerk, with the Earl of Huntly, Lord John Hamilton, Commendator of Aberbrothick, for the Duke of Chatelherault, when a treaty of peace was agreed upon.

Morton now began to show a great spirit of greed and avarice in annexing the revenues of the Church and treating the nobility with scorn and oppression, which alienated many.

In Nov. 1571, Pitcairn was sent with others to treat with Lord Hunsdon at Berwick, for an offensive and defensive league with England, and to obtain aid from Elizabeth against Queen Mary.

On their return they received the special thanks of the Privy Council.<sup>1</sup>

1571. *Nov.* 22. Berwick. Lord Hunsdon to the Privy Council of England. Arrival of Morton and Abbot of Dunfermline to treat with him for quieting the troubles there. Their consent to give hostages for the safe return of the Queen of England's soldiers. The need of Her Majesty's aid both in men and money. Forces required for the winning of the Castle, &c.

1572. *Oct.* 28. "Certain notes given me" (Henry Killigrew, Ambassador and Special Correspondent) "in writing by Robert Pitcairn, the Abbot of Dunfermline, in the name of the Regent and my Lord of Morton," being conditions for the future government of Scotland, the custody of the Castle of Edinburgh, &c.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., ii. 99.

<sup>2</sup> State Papers, 1569-71. Entry 2133.

Pitcairn was frequently employed in negotiations with the defenders of the Castle of Edinburgh, and was one of the Commissioners for the pacification of the Huntlys and Hamiltons. Notwithstanding his close association with Morton, disgusted, as any upright man would be, by his flagrant demeanour to the Church, and his wanton miscarriage of justice, Robert Pitcairn was a party to the conspiracy against him in 1578, and he was one of the new Council of twelve, chosen after Morton's fall, to govern in the name of the King. Melville includes Pitcairn in his mention of the nobles who forsook Morton "Glamis, Lindsay, Ruthven, Pitcairn the Secretary, Murray of Tullibardin, Comptroller" and his fallen fortunes, and who appeared in the Council at Stirling against him.

With regard to the Commissioners, the Regent promised that as soon as he knew of what quality the commissioners of Mary's party were to be, he would nominate the King's commissioners accordingly, and that no molestation should be given to the former in their journey; but that in the meantime the Council had appointed Pitcairn, Abbot of Dunfermline, to repair to Elizabeth with their instructions.

The instructions given to Pitcairn, after paying great compliments to the Queen, contained remonstrances against all that had been done or proposed at Chatsworth.

On the 27th of June 1578,<sup>1</sup> in respect of his ability and experience, the King chose Pitcairn as Ambassador to Queen Elizabeth, to thank her for the favour shown to the young King, to offer to renew the alliance between the two kingdoms, and to demand possession of the estate of the Countess of Lennox.

On his return he was duly declared to have honestly, truly, and diligently performed and discharged his charge,

<sup>1</sup> As soon as James assumed the government in his own hands, he despatched the Abbot of Dunfermline to inform Elizabeth of that event, to offer to renew the alliance between the two kingdoms, and to demand possession of the estate which had lately fallen to him by the death of the Countess of Lennox (Robertson's Hist., Sect. II., B. VII., p. 193). Moysie Memoires, p. 6. Calderwood's Hist., iii. 397.

and this declaration was embodied in an Act "ad perpetuam rei memoriam."<sup>1</sup>

1578. *June* 18. The names of all the Counsellors, present at the resolution of the election of the Abbot of Dunfermline, to be sent in "Ambassade" to the Queen's Majesty of England, with their votes in the same.

Acts of the Privy Council of England, 1578, addenda to p. 53:—

To the Lord Maiour of London that where the Abbott of Dunfermling in Scotland, a man of good credit, is sent out of Scotland to Her Majestie, and maketh his repair shortlie to London, the said Lord Maiour is required that by conference with some of his brethren, there may be some meete lodging appointed for the receiving of him and his trayne, and that the same may be in a readynes to receive him.

H. Averinge, the 17 Julie, 1578.

A Placard for post horses for certaine gentlemen of the trayne of Lord Robert Pitcairn, Commendatour of Dunfermling, not being present with him, at his departure from Awdley End.

Ultimo Julij 1578.<sup>2</sup>

Ultimo Julij, 1578.<sup>3</sup>

Lord Treasurer.

Mr Vice-Chamberlain.

Lord Hunsdon.

Mr Secretary Wilson.

A letter to Sir John Forster from Privy Council where order was taken at Stirling, that the Kinge of Scottes wolde send certaine Commissioners to the Borders for the redresse of certain disorders which were of late committed there, the Lord of Dumfermling at his being heere having made request that in the meane tyme till the said Commissioner shall come, there might be no pryvate revenge sought for those disorders, the said Sir John Forster is required to use all carefullnes that no breache of quietnes or peace be done within his charge till the Commission shall be formed for redressing of the said disorders, the spedy sending of which Commissioners (if they shall not be there already) the Lord of Dumfermling will procure at his returne home; who hath also desired that Sir John Forster shoulde gyve like admonycion to the young Lord of Cesford his opposite Warden, for causing like good rule to be kepte within his charge.

There is an interesting entry in the Dunfermline Register as to the first edition of the English Bible printed in Scotland.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., ii. 707, 708.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of State Papers, 1578.

<sup>3</sup> Acts of the Privy Council, 1578.



In 1575-76 Mr George Young, servant to the Lord Abbot of Dunfermline, was, with the consent of the General Assembly, employed by Bassandyne and Arbuthnot, printers, in correcting the proof-sheets of the first edition of the Geneva translation of the English Bible ever printed in Scotland. Folio price in sheets, £4, 13s. 4d. Scots.<sup>1</sup>

The New Testament is dated 1576, and the Old Testament 1579. Young was Archdeacon of St Andrews in 1587; and on the 25th Nov. 1589, Mr George Young was at Upslow, Norway, as one of His Majesty's Ambassadors, on his marriage with Queen Anne of Denmark.

<sup>1</sup> Dunfermline Register, p. 268, note ii.

## CHAPTER X.

## CONCLUSION OF ROBERT PITCAIRN'S LIFE.

ON the 20th of May 1579, Pitcairn was appointed one of a Committee for sighting the Lennox papers.

Two worthless favourites had now gained access to the young King: Esme Stuart, son of a second brother of the Earl of Lennox (who a few days after his arrival in Scotland from France was created Earl of Lennox); and Captain James Stuart, second son of Lord Ochiltree, remarkable, as Buchanan says, "for his irreligion, indecency, and want of every moral quality which can render a man estimable, combined with a matchless impudence and audacity in carrying out his wicked designs." The two entirely prevented the King from following the counsels of his older and wiser friends, and paved the way for the mysterious Raid of Ruthven.

The infamous James Stuart was meanwhile made Earl of Arran, and proceeded to compass the death of Lord Morton, who was tried and beheaded, the 2nd of June 1581.

The following day Arran unblushingly admitted to the Council that he had tampered with Morton's servants, and even inflicted torture on some of them, that they might give evidence against their master, and what ought to have been stamped with infamy was acknowledged by the Council "as good service to the State."<sup>1</sup>

In August 1579 the Commendator was one of a Commission for the Reformation of the Universities, especially of

<sup>1</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., ii. 199, 200.

St Andrews.<sup>1</sup> As the Abbot had been Arch-Dean of St Andrews, and lived there until he was forty years old, he was peculiarly suitable to be on this Commission, having necessarily intimate knowledge of the University there.

On the 23rd of April he was one of the arbiters of the feud between the clans of Gordon and Forbes.

With other chief persons of the realm he signed the second Confession of Faith, commonly called the King's Confession, at Edinburgh the 28th January 1580-81.

In 1581 Robert Pitcairn married Euphemia, the second daughter of Sir William Murray of Tullibardine, and widow of Robert Stewart of Rosyth. Her sister Annabella married John, Earl of Mar, and was governess to the young King, whom she brought up exceedingly well. A note as to the Commendator's marriage is in the 'Annals of Dunfermline.' The entry is as follows: "James Blackwood, 'Reader in Saline,' is mentioned as incurring the censure and prosecution of the ecclesiastical authorities for celebrating the marriage of the Commendator of Dunfermline, residing outside of the parish, without requiring a certificate from the minister of the place to which he belonged."<sup>2</sup>

The marriage had probably been a private one. Saline, where it was solemnised, is a small place on the hills, not very far from Dunfermline.

The arms in the illustration are carved on an old building, called the old vout or vault at Limekilns, and are the arms of Robert Pitcairn and his wife Euphemia Murray.

In those days Limekilns and Gellets belonged to the Commendator, which would account for his arms being on the vault. In James VI.'s days it was used as a Royal storage for wine. Pitcairn's seal is on the cover of this book, and is drawn from an impression of one in the British Museum (Laing's Catalogue of Seals, Plate vii. fig. 9), affixed to a grant of land. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, a mascle, for Pitcairn; 2nd and 3rd, an eagle dis-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., ii. 279. Calderwood, iii. 501.

<sup>2</sup> Dunfermline Entries. Between the Ochils and the Forth, by Beveridge.

played, for Ramsay. Foliage at the top and sides of the shield. "S. Roberti Pitcairn, Commendatorii of the lands of Lymekillhill alias Langbruk, and of Terrace Medow, granted be the Commendator of Dunfermling to James Murray of Perdeuis, 22 November 1578" (Elgin Charters). To quote Mr Alan Reid's description of the old vault, in his book, 'Limekilns and Charlestown': "The vaulted roof, the pointed Eastern doorway, and the corbelled staircase of the old Limekilns storehouse or Royal Cellars . . . are excellent specimens of ancient domestic architecture, and over the doorway is built a sculptured stone, bearing among its adornments the date 1581. The Lyon King-at-Arms courteously defines the symbols on the shield as those of Pitcairn and Murray. The Duke of Atholl is of the opinion that they represent 'the arms of Pitcairn who married a Murray.' Lord Elgin writes that he 'always understood these to be the Pitcairn arms.'"<sup>1</sup>

This is certainly the case, like Pitcairn's seal in Laing's Collection is carved: 1st and 4th, a mascle, for Pitcairn; 2nd and 3rd, an eagle displayed, for Ramsay, and the three mullets for Murray in addition on the right. The shield is surrounded by a tressure, which is ornamented with lozenges and fleur-de-lis.

Among the charters preserved at Pitfirrane is one of date 1536, a note of which has been transcribed by Sir Arthur Halkett, and made available through the kindness of Lord Elgin. It reads as follows:—

Ane Procuraterie granted to James Richardson with consent of Mr Robert Richardson prior of St Marie Isle his fayr. for resigning of the lands of Lymekills with the pertinents, in hands of ye Commendator of Dunfermline as superior, to remaine with him and his successors as ane pairt of the Patramonie of ye Abbacie in all tyme yr efter daitted ye 1st March 1536.

Next are two entries in the Calendar of the Laing Charters, which definitely show that the Pitcairns had the possession of Limekilns. The first is dated 1575, and notes the conveyance of the estate to Robert, Commendator

<sup>1</sup> Mr Alan Reid's 'Limekilns and Charlestown.'





PITCAIRN AND MURRAY  
ARMS, 1581.  
LIMEKILNS.



of Dunfermline, and is signed by Robert Richardson, Commendator of St Mary Isle.

The second is more specific, and so distinctly speaks of a residence—"manor-place" it is termed—that no further doubt can be entertained on the subject. It is dated 1589, and reads:—

"Letter of Procuratory by Mr John Pitcairn of that Ilk,<sup>1</sup> Henry Pitcairne, his son and heir, and Isobella Balfour, his spouse, for resigning the town (opidum) and lands of Lymekyllis with harbour (portu), and Manor Place, and the lands of Weddergang respectively, in the lordship and regality of Dunfermline and Sheriffdom of Fife, into the hands of George, Earl of Huntly, &c., commendator of the monastery of Dunfermline, recently erected into a temporal lordship, for new infestment to Robert Bruce of Baldrig, his heirs, &c." Witnesses, &c.

On 24th July 1579 John Pitcairn of that Ilk had had the various properties confirmed to him by the Lords in Council. This is fully told in his life.<sup>2</sup>

A conspiracy was now formed to part the King from his unworthy favourites, Arran and Lennox. The principal leaders were the Earls of Mar, Glencairn, and Gowrie, Lord Lindsay, Lord Boyd, the Master of Glamis and Oliphant, the titular Abbots of Dunfermline (Pitcairn), Paisley, Dryburgh, &c., the lairds of Lochleven, Easter Wemyss, Cleish, and the Constable of Dundee. Their design was to obtain the possession of the King's person, send Lennox to France, and remove Arran from Court.

At first they intended to present a supplication to the King at Dunfermline, on his return from hunting in Athol; but as neither Lennox nor Arran was with him, they invited the King to Ruthven Castle, whence this enterprise has been called the Raid of Ruthven.

When the King arrived at Ruthven, he began to be afraid there was some plot. The following morning he prepared to take the field, but was anticipated by the nobles, who, entering his bedchamber, presented the memorial. They

<sup>1</sup> See chap. xi., Life of John Pitcairn of that Ilk.

<sup>2</sup> See Cartulary of Dunfermline, vol. i. p. 278.

were graciously received, and his Majesty was hastening to go out, when the Master of Glammis, stepping to the door of his room, told him he must stay.

On finding himself a prisoner, he threatened, expostulated, and finally burst into tears. "It is no matter of his tears," said the Master of Glammis when he saw him crying; "better bairns should weep than bearded men,"—a saying the king could never afterwards forget. Although treated with every respect, yet he was kept captive, and his attendants changed. Finding himself totally cut off from any communication with his obnoxious Ministers, James made a virtue of necessity and submitted to his fate.

The nobles sent Arran to prison in Stirling Castle, and Lennox they persuaded the King to banish, which with much reluctance he consented to do: shortly after the Earl, having been attacked by fever in France, died there. Passionate in his temper and libertine in his morals, he was the most unfit companion that the young King of a free and religious country could have chosen.

The Assembly passed an Act approving the late enterprise, with the King's approval, 13th October 1582.<sup>1</sup> After some time James consulted with Colonel Stuart how he could regain his liberty. Stuart advised the king to send for his most trusty counsellors, and in consequence Sir James Melville, who had retired from Court, received his Majesty's commands to repair to Falkland. He endeavoured to dissuade the King from making his escape, but, finding him resolute, counselled him, if he succeeded, to proclaim a general amnesty, free, full, without reserve, to accede to the request of the Church, and to choose for his counsellors the most virtuous and wisest of the nobility and gentry, all of which the King promised to do.

He then set out for St Andrews, to visit his uncle the Earl of March. At first he went to an inn; but in the end went to the Castle, and was free to choose his own advisers.

Melville says:<sup>2</sup> "I found that the Abbot of Dunfermline

<sup>1</sup> Acts of the Privy Council, 1582.

<sup>2</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs.



was arrived out of Lochleven to join the King. The next day the whole Lords, as well written for as unwritten for, arrived at St Andrews; the King's Lords quite without armour, the other Lords strongly armed. The Earl Marshal, Mar, and the Abbot of Dunfermline were lodged within the Castle with his Majesty. The Abbot counselled the King to let none of the Lords come within the Castle accompanied with more than twelve persons. The next morning the Castle was full of men, and those of the contrary party being well armed, had already taken the stair-heads and galleries, resolving again to be masters of the King, and all the best intelligence was therefore used to bring within the Castle all the Earl of March his gentlemen, with the Lairds of Dairsy, Balgony, Segie, Forret, and others, with so many of the Town as were at the Provost's devotion, which for that night prevented the afore-said design."

The day being thus safely past without any harm done, the King seemed inclined to keep his promise to Sir James Melville, and having assembled all the Lords and the Fife barons, he said he would bury the past in oblivion, and satisfy the demand of the Church, paid a visit to the Earl of Gowrie at Ruthven Castle, and gave him a full pardon. Arran was then admitted to see his Majesty, and all the King's professions and promises were speedily forgotten. Colonel Stuart swore a great oath, "That if his Majesty suffered that villain [the Earl of Arran] to remain at Court he would yet again undo all."

Arran now pursued his violent measures, ordered all the Lords to surrender themselves prisoners, and put themselves in ward; but all refusing, except Angus, they were denounced as rebels. The Earl of Gowrie was beheaded, and his estates divided amongst the dominant party; execution followed execution, ministers fled from Scotland, and no one was safe from the infamous Arran. As insatiable in avarice as ambition, he imprisoned the Earl of Atholl because he would not divorce his wife, a daughter of Gowrie's, and entail her estates on him; Lord Home,

because he would not alienate and part with the lands of Dirleton to him; and the Master of Cassilis, because he would not lend him money.

At last the nobles rose, appealed to James at Stirling, who then banished Arran, when the title reverted to the rightful owner; he again became Captain James Stuart, was declared a public enemy, and protracted his wretched life in a distant corner, dying in oblivion.

On the 11th of January 1583, six months after the Raid of Ruthven, the Keepers of the Great Seal were ordered, under pain of rebellion, to append the Great Seal to the gift of the Abbey of Dunfermline to Henry Pitcairn, son of the Commendator's brother, reserving the liferent to the Commendator; this was to ensure that the nephew of Robert Pitcairn would succeed, the gift having been made in recognition of the "long and true service of the Commendator to the King since his Coronation."<sup>1</sup>

*For his long and true service to His Majesty since his coronation it had pleased his Majesty lately with the advice of this Council to gif and dispone to Henry Pitcairn, his broder's sone, the abbacy of Dunfermline, reservand onlie his owne lifrente of the samyn to himself.*

The Lords renewed the charge that this should be carried out, and they ordered John Graham, depute to Colin, Erle of Argile, Chancellor, to see that it is done.<sup>2</sup>

On the 26th of April, Pitcairn was appointed assessor to the treasure of the Earl of Gowrie.

Now began Arran's cruel vengeance on the Lords; and Pitcairn also was at last to feel the weight of his revenge.

At Perth the Commendator must have had some suspicions of Arran's designs against him, for Sir James Melville<sup>3</sup> states that "Pitcairn, in order to secure the favour of Colonel Stuart, then Captain of the Guard, gave him a purse and thirty pieces of gold at four pounds the piece, which pieces the Colonel distributed to so many of the Guard, who bored them and set them like targets on

<sup>1</sup> Acts of the Privy Council and Buchanan's History.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., iii. 543.

<sup>3</sup> Sir James Melville and Calendar of State Papers.

their knapsacks, and the purse was borne on a spear-point like an ensign."

This was when the regiment marched from Perth to Falkland, and the Commendator no doubt came with them, for another writer says that when Pitcairn arrived at Falkland, Arran appeared at the same time. He then sent Pitcairn in ward to the Castle of Lochleven, with the Laird of Cleish and Drumwhassel, for their share in the Raid of Ruthven. Calderwood, referring to this, says of Pitcairn: "Coming to court, and suspecting no harm, he was carried captive to Lochleven Castle, that gloomy old fortress, where he remained for five months, until Sept. 23, when he was liberated, with a caution to stay in Dunfermline, or for six miles round, under pain of £10,000."

The following extracts are from the Domestic State Papers, and show the interest taken by the English statesmen in Robert Pitcairn and his imprisonment:—

1583. London, Bishop of Ross to Sir William Cecil. Marvels at the Abbot of Dunfermline's sudden dismissal from the Court.

1583. *Aug.* 8, Edinburgh. "Mr Bowes [an ambassador and special correspondent resident in Scotland] to Sir Francis Walsingham." A purse of gold given by Dunfermline to Colonel Stewart to procure some favour at the hands of the King. Stewart gave the gold to the King, and the King in his turn gave it to the guards, who wear the pieces in their hats. Declarations made to the King in favour of his mother.

*Aug.* 27, Edinburgh. Dunfermline committed to ward for treasons alleged against him and Drumquassel.

*Sept.* 17, Edinburgh. A request for him (Walsingham) to write to the King in favour of Dunfermline (Robert Pitcairn).

*Sept.* 19. Sir Francis Walsingham to King James. Begs the discharge from imprisonment of the Abbot of Dunfermline, in consideration of his long and faithful service.

*Sept.* 21, Falkland. Proclamation by the King of Scotland, offering to forgive all those who will crave his pardon for the public attempt committed against him this last year (at the Raid of Ruthven).

*Oct.* 4, Falkland. King James to Sir Francis Walsingham. "Has set the Abbot of Dunfermline at liberty according to his request. Hopes that he will explain the heads of the late conference between them, according to his true meaning, and as will best tend to dis-

appoint the practices of those who are seeking to cast jealousies between him and the Queen of England."

*Oct. 11*, Berwick. Robert Bowes to Sir Francis Walsyngham. Chance of Dunfermline being brought into fresh troubles. The guard about the King is very strong.

*Oct. 11*. Sudden fears and alarms. Incloses letter of Alexander Clark, Provost of Edinburgh, to Mr Bowes. The King thinks his advice very good, and is inclined of himself to clemency. Gowrie great in his favour and Lindsay. Angus to be restored. Troops reported to have been sent by the Queen of England to the frontiers.—Edinburgh, *Oct. 10*.

*Jan. 11*, 1584, Newcastle. Robert Bowes to Sir Francis Walsyngham. Dunfermline returned to Court, and graciously entertained by the King. Glamis to return—Angus fed with fair words. Mar's friends to find favour.

*June 15*, Edinburgh. Mr Davidson to Sir Francis Walsyngham. Constant expectation of the execution of Lord Lindsay. Escape of Dunfermline. Flight of the Professors and Students of St Andrews. Lord Seton expected daily.<sup>1</sup>

Pitcairn fled (according to Spottiswoode) to England, and it would appear that, shortly after his arrival there, during the winter of 1583-84 set sail to Flanders, his wife sharing his exile.

In the Acts of the Privy Council there are numerous references to Dunfermline, for transactions at or letters written from it, and particularly to Abbot or Secretary Pitcairn, and his successor Patrick, second Master of Gray: they figured greatly in the eventful periods of their office, 1578-1587, respecting both civil and ecclesiastical affairs, including a league between the two kingdoms. Pitcairn's letters are sometimes dated from Holyrood, as in April 1 and Sept. 2, 1580; and from Court, Dec. 29, 1582. The Abbot is generally styled simply "Dunfirmline," as is also Lord Seton at times.

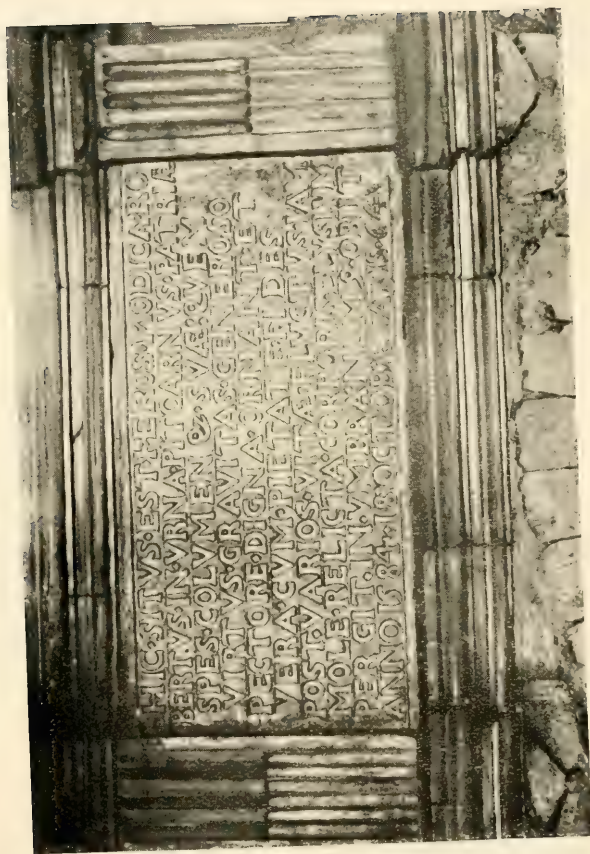
On the 12th of September 1584 Lord Robert Pitcairn returned to Scotland from abroad, and obtained leave to stay at Limekilns.<sup>2</sup> According to Spottiswoode, he was ill in Flanders. No doubt the ingratitude of the King for

<sup>1</sup> From the Domestic State Papers, Queen Elizabeth's reign.

<sup>2</sup> Calderwood, iii. 725.







ROBERT PITCAIRN'S TOMB,  
1584.

whom he had done so much, his imprisonment in Lochleven, the attainder of his lifelong friends Mar, Glamis, &c., who had their estates forfeited, as his were (by the infamous Arran, who divided the lands with his confederates), had completely broken Pitcairn in health and spirits; and it was only a wreck of his former self—ill, worn out, weighed down with many trials—that landed on the shores of Scotland, where he was to die so soon. He was accompanied by his wife; and it must have been a consolation to him in his hours of sadness and the bitterness of disappointed hopes to know that his relations, at any rate, were faithful to him. He stayed at Limekilns.

Shortly after his arrival he became worse, and, to be near his medical attendant, he was allowed to remove to his official residence, "Pitcairn's House," in the Maygate, Dunfermline, which was close to the Abbey.

As the plague was raging in the town at the time of his death, it is likely that, in his weak state of health, he was attacked by it. He died on the 18th Oct. 1584. He had great strength of character. His wisdom and fidelity were so great that they were extolled by such writers as George Buchanan, Calderwood, Sir James Melville, &c. He was a man of great ability, as was shown by the nobles choosing him to represent them at the Court of Queen Elizabeth: he was one of twelve appointed to govern the country during the minority of the King, and was at every Conference of note; was chosen to adjudicate and settle all the vexed questions which arose in his time; one of a Committee to reform the Universities; was Ambassador many times to England; and even that astute Queen, Elizabeth, specially praised his wisdom and discretion, and she was no mean judge of men.

For very many years he enjoyed the friendship of the King. To his relations he was ever kind and most generous, and a most faithful servant to his country and his King.

Such is the history of Robert Pitcairn, a very important personage in his day. It was inexpressibly sad that, having

done so much for the State, his later years should be clouded with such heavy trials.

He was buried in the Abbey Church of Dunfermline. One translation of the Latin inscription on his tomb is as follows:—

To LORD ROBERT PITCAIRN, Abbot of Dunfermline, Archdean of St Andrews, Royal Legate, and his Majesty's Private Secretary. Here is interred, in a plain urn, the hero ROBERT PITCAIRN, the hope and pillar of his country, whom virtue, gravity, worthy of a generous heart, and fidelity, with true piety, adorn.

After various changes of life, he now, with the mass of his body left behind, proceeds in spirit to Elysium, for he died in the year 1584 on the 18th October, aged 64.

In Monteith's 'Theatre of Mortality,' p. 209, there is the following:—

In this small grave here lies his country's hope,  
ROBERT PITCAIRN, its confidence and prop;  
Grave, generous, loyal, virtuous and true,  
With all the gifts kind stars did him endue.  
From various fleetings of this life, his clay  
Left here, his soul to Heaven made its way.



## CHAPTER XI.

FOURTEENTH LAIRD, JOHN PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK  
AND FORTHAR.

JOHN PITCAIRN, fourteenth Lord of Forthar-Ramsay and Pitcairn, succeeded his brother Robert to Forthar-Ramsay on his death in 1584. It must have been a great grief to him when his brother died. Robert had been uniformly good to him and his sisters: they were always on the very best of terms. John was much with his brother, and even as far back as 1552 he and Sir William Murray, Treasurer of Dublin, and Robert the Commendator, all signed a deed at Dunfermline. We have seen how Robert Pitcairn gave to Sir William Murray of Balvaird and his sister Barbara Pitcairn Blairnbothy, and Inchdarnie to his sister Elizabeth.<sup>1</sup>

Robert Pitcairn the Commendator had, long before this, with the consent of his father David, made John Pitcairn and his descendants heirs of Forthar-Ramsay and Pitcairn, &c.<sup>2</sup> The charter was signed at Forthar, 25th January 1551.

To his brother John he gave in 1565 various lands and houses in St Andrews, which have been described in Lord Robert's life.<sup>3</sup>

The charter was in 1565, Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, Stirling, 12th February 1578.

There was a building, with garden, trees, and large lands, belonging to the Archdean in the town of St Andrews.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. of Dunfermline, fol. 27. See also chap. vii. page 70.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxv. No. 47. See David Pitcairn's life, chap. vii.

<sup>3</sup> Chap. viii. p. 79.

Four other houses, one of Henry Kayrnis, one occupied by the Prior of Pitmoak, one by David Colyng, Thomas Durie, and James Geddie. The fourth was occupied by Joseph Reid, and called the "Auld Innis."

Later on he had given to him the 10th Garbalibus of Inveresk—

*Assedatio M. Johannis Pitcairne de decimus Garbalibus de Inveresk.*<sup>1</sup>

John Pitcairn therefore became possessed of the tenth of the lands of Garbalibus of Inveresk. He also had Limekilns, Easter and Wester Gellets, Maistertoun, Rescobie, Weddergang, Coitt, with the mills of Collierlaw and the Heuch Mills.<sup>2</sup>

He had the right, too, to the coals of Gellets. All this property was around Dunfermline. The following particulars from the Cartulary of Dunfermline show this clearly:—

The act and decreit obtenit befor the lordis be Mr Johnne Pitcairn of forthour againes the conventuale brethir and monkis of Dumfermling (fol. 278).

*Carta Magister Joannis Pitcairne de eodem de terris de eister et wester Gellettis maistertoun rescobie cum lie wedder gang ejusdem terrisque de Coitt cum molendinis de Coclyeraw et lie heuch myllis* (fol. 279).

*Carta Magistro Johannis pitcairne terrarum de lymkill et Morpheisfauld* (fol. 280).

*Carta, Magistro Joanni Pitcairne de terris de Rescobie eister et wester.*

*Gellettis et lymkill cum decimus inclusis earundum, eodem.*

*Carta carbonarij de Gillietounis Magistro Joanni pitcairne de eodum.*

Certain grete sommes of money had been payit and debursit by the Commendator Pitcairn to Mr Richardson his brother-german and his niece Alison Richardson in consideration of which the Commendator Pitcairn got the right to two Charters after the death of Mr Richardson.<sup>3</sup>

John Pitcairn of Forthar [her uncle], and creditor of this lady,

<sup>1</sup> Reg. of Dunfermline, fol. 142.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., fol. 280.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

applied for and obtained from the Lords in Council, 24th July 1579, "an act and decreit assoilizing the conventual brethren, but ordaining letters to be direct simpliciter charging the keiparis and traisoris of the Common Seill of the Abbey to append the same to the said twa charteris."<sup>1</sup>

These related to the lands of Easter and Wester Gellat, Masterton, Roscobie, Coitt or Coats, the Mills of Collierlaw, the two Heugh Mills, the lands of Limekilns, with part of the same, and the lands called Morphiesfauld, being the only properties not parted with by the Richardsons in favour of the tenants.

In 1584, when the Commendator died, John Pitcairn succeeded to his estates, which were of great extent, to the Baronies of Forthar, Downfield, and Pitcairn, many houses at St Andrews, several lands and manors around Dunfermline, and elsewhere.

He soon had to part with most of his lands near Dunfermline, being practically forced to do this by George, Lord Huntly, in 1589, and by the Master of Gray.

The following deed was signed by him, his son Henry, and his daughter-in-law, Isabella Balfour, giving up the various properties therein mentioned:—

Letter of Procuratory by Mr John Pitcairn of that Ilk, Henry Pitcairne, his son and heir, and Isobella Balfour his spouse, for resigning the town and lands of Lymekillis, with harbour and manor place, and the lands of Weddergang respectively, and the lordship and regality of Dunfermline, and Sherifffdom of Fife, into the hands of George, Earl of Huntly, Commendator of the Monastery of Dunfermline, recently erected into a temporal lordship, for new infestment to Robert Bruce of Balrig, his heirs, &c. These related to the lands of Easter and Wester Gellat, Masterton, Roscobie, Coitts or Coats, the Cornmills of Collierlaw, the two Heugh Mills, and the lands of *Limekilns* and Morphiesfauld.<sup>2</sup>

It was this very *Limekilns* that Robert Pitcairn came to, when he returned home from Flanders to die, in 1584.

Janet Balfour, his niece, and daughter of his brother, Henry Pitcairn, had claims on the estate of Forthar, as elder daughter of the eldest son of David Pitcairn. John had given her various sums of money, both before and at

<sup>1</sup> Cartulary of Dunfermline, fol. 56, 280, 144.

<sup>2</sup> Laing Charters, 1589.

the time of her marriage, whereby she resigned her share of the Forthar estates. She died on the 19th September 1589, and later on there was much difficulty with regard to the succession to the Dovan estates, which had been settled on her, and which the Pitcairns claimed as her heirs at law. It was eventually amicably settled by purchase, as will be seen in the notes on the transfer of the Dovan estates. There was again litigation later on, in connection with lands near Dunfermline, and the Balfours this time seem to have gained their case. John Pitcairn had three daughters—Elizabeth, Isobel, and Catherine—and three sons: 1, Henry; 2, Robert; 3, Patrick.

Henry succeeded his father to Forthar, and of him more later on.

John Pitcairn cared much for his second son, Robert. In the old charter granting him lands, on the 24th November 1581, he expresses the love he had for him. The charter says:—

Mr John Pitcairn of Forthar, for the love he had to his lawful son, Robert Pitcairn, and that he might live honourably, gave sasine to the said Robert of his lands of Dounfield in Fife: with the tower fortalice and manor, mill and lands thereof to himself (Mr John Pitcairn) and Agnes Aytoun his wife. The witnesses were Patrick Pitcairn and others.<sup>1</sup>

On the death of his father in 1593, Robert Pitcairn came into his inheritance, and on the 28th July 1598 his mother died.<sup>2</sup> Her will was confirmed at Kettle, and she is called Agnes Aytoun, Lady Elder of Forthar. Her eldest son, Henry Pitcairn, had before this succeeded, on the death of his father, to the Forthar estates.

On the 26th of December there is a Charter of Sale by Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, with consent of Isabella Balfour his spouse, and his brother-german Robert Pitcairn of Dounfield, of the lands of Easter Gellet in the regality of Dunfermline.

Dated at Forthar: witnesses, David Pitcairn, burgess of Dunfermline; James Pitcairne, son of the said Henry Pitcairne, &c.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 926, box 26.

<sup>2</sup> St Andrews Wills.

<sup>3</sup> Laing Charters, No. 506, box 15; and No. 559, box 16.



Henry probably bought back the lands of Dounfield from his brother Robert, in exchange for the lands of Easter Gellet, which he sold to him the year before. At any rate, Henry was possessed now of the lands of Dounfield, for he willed them later to David, his son, who succeeded him, and David in turn willed them to William, *his* eldest son.

Robert Pitcairn then went to live at Easter Gellet near Dunfermline (which now belongs to the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine).

Robert married and had two sons, Henry and Thomas, who were witnesses to a deed, Dec. 6, 1625, where they are called sons of the late Robert Pitcairn of Dounfield.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas, the second son, married Grizzell Gourlay, in 1624, on Jan. 6, at Cupar.

There is a Charter by Grizzell Gourlay, with consent of Thomas Pitcairn her spouse, to Robert Russell in Caldhome, and Christian Ramsay his wife, of her quarter of the lands of Kingskettle, &c. Henry Pitcairne of that Ilk is a witness in 1624.<sup>2</sup>

Robert Pitcairn of Downfield died, and his will was proved at Kettle, August 1620.

John Pitcairn's third son Patrick was one of the Grooms of the Bed-chamber in James VI.'s reign, and on April 28, 1588, at Greenwich, is indorsed, "Mr Ferdinando's warrant for his entertainment as Groom of the Chamber, 26th May 1603."

"Patrick Pitcairn the like, 21st June 1603, and 12th July 1603. Miles Rainsford, John Repton, Edward Lascelles, Robert le Gris, and Patrick Pitcairn in one bill." What their entertainment was we do not hear.<sup>3</sup>

"On the 19th Oct. of the same year, at Winchester, warrant for yearly livery to Patrick Pitcairn, Groom of the Privy Chamber."

From another entry at Wilton, 4th Dec. of the same year, we find what the livery must have been, as "there is a warrant to Sir George Hume, Master of the Great Ward-

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 2358, box 60.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., No. 280, box 1.

<sup>3</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

robe, to deliver yearly to John Auchmuty, Patrick Pitcairn, John Gibbs, and John and George Murray (cousins), ordinary Grooms of the Privy Chamber, a damask or satin gown bound with velvet and furred, a velvet coat and doublet, a marble cloth coat, guarded with velvet, and another of green cloth also bound with velvet, and to pay for materials for making."

Patrick Pitcairn's will was drawn up the 16th of August, and is in the Edinburgh testaments, 1620. He died at Freuchy.

Elizabeth, John Pitcairn's eldest daughter, married John Auchmotie:—

On the 30th May 1580, the marriage was solemnised between Elizabeth, legitimate daughter of John Pitcairn of Forthar, to John Auchmotie or Auchmuty. She had for her marriage portion the lands of Eister Fairny with the Manor House. Witnesses, David Balfour of Banedone, Thomas Ballingall of Riggis.<sup>1</sup>

Ballingall was cousin to Elizabeth: his mother was a Pitcairn. As she was married at St Andrews, no doubt Robert Pitcairn would be at the marriage of his niece, as about that time he would be on the Commission for inquiring into the University.

Auchmuty of that Ilk, an old Fifeshire family, formerly possessed lands in the parish of Newburn. The barony of Auchmoutie embraced the properties of Drumeldry and Lawhill. In 1600 Captain Auchmuty, a descendant of this ancient house, settled at Brianstown in Longford, Ireland, and that estate is still in the possession of his descendants. There are still one or two families of the name resident in Fife.

Elizabeth Pitcairn's husband, John Auchmotie, became Groom of the Privy Chamber, 19th Oct. 1588. A description of his livery has been given.

In 1620, July 18, at Westminster, there was a grant with survivorship to John Auchmotie, Groom of the Bed-chamber, and Isobelle, his wife, of a pension of £500 per annum for their lives, on surrender of a pension of £200, and all perquisites by John

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<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxv. No. 178.

Auchmotie, and of a pension of £100 by James Auchmotie, son of Elizabeth Pitcairn.<sup>1</sup>

On June 10, at Greenwich in 1623, Secretary Conway writes to the Lord Treasurer, that the King wishes for a Patent passing to Alexander Auchmutie, Groom of the Privy Chamber, of a pension of £200 a-year resigned to him by Sir James Balfour.

This Alexander was Elizabeth Pitcairn's second son.<sup>2</sup> He is mentioned again, 1621, 30th Aug., at Edinburgh, in a letter of the Earl of Dunfermline to Robert Abercrombie, who requests that "he would deliver the letters enclosed in his, to the Ambassador of Venice, Alexander and John Auchmutie, and other friends at Court."

In 1623 there was a grant to Alexander Auchmutie of £2000 from the penalties adjudged to the Crown in the Court of Common Pleas.<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Auchmutie, their mother, died before her sons were at Court, as her will is in the Edinburgh Testaments of the 4th June 1590. She is called therein, "Elizabeth Pitcairn, sometime spouse to John Auchmowtie of Easter Farney in Fife: this estate was given her by her father on her marriage."

Isabelle Pitcairn, second daughter of John of Forthar, married John Kinnear of Kinnear, and died 11th March 1594. Her will says: "Isabelle Pitcairn, sometime spouse of John Kinnear, fiar of that Ilk, of the parish of Loar Murth, in the Sheriffdom of Fife."<sup>4</sup>

In 1593 there was a Bond of Caution in £1000 by Mr John Pitcairn of that Ilk and John Kinnear of that Ilk, not to harm David Kinnear of that Ilk, subscribed at Forthar, 3rd May 1593, before David Pitcairne, burgess of Dunfermline, Patrick Pitcairne of Pitlour, Servitor to Mr John Pitcairn, Walter Ballingall, Notary Public, &c.

Katherine Pitcairne, third daughter to John of Forthar, married John Arbuthnot of Mondayunes, and died on the 22nd Feb. 1576.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. No. 23.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., No. 20; Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

<sup>3</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

<sup>4</sup> Reg. of Privy Council of Scot.

John Pitcairn's wife was Agnes Ayton of Ayton. The Aytons were a very good old family. John's sister Elspeth had also married an Ayton, and been given the estate of Inchdairnie by Robert Pitcairn the Commendator, her brother.<sup>1</sup> Her son Robert was Groom of the Privy Chamber, for in "1608, May 16, at Edinburgh, there is a warrant to pay to Robert Ayton, Groom of the Privy Chamber, £20 per annum, the same as to Laurence Marbury; and on the same date there was a warrant to deliver stuff to the said Robert Ayton for his yearly livery."<sup>2</sup> In May of the next year, at Westminster, on the 22nd, "there is a warrant to pay John Barclay and Robert Ayton £300 each, for expenses of their journey with the King's letters abroad as King's messengers."

In Wodrow's History he mentions that in 1679 Andrew Ayton, younger of Inchdarnie, a descendant of Elizabeth Pitcairn, daughter of David Pitcairn of Forthar,

an excellent young gentleman, was murdered by the Soldiers of Fife. He had the blessing of early piety, When at the University of St Andrews, he spent much of his time in prayer. After his leaving College, he was much concerned to have Presbyterian Ministers brought to Fife.

When little more than seventeen years of age, he was intercommunicated, and forced to quit his father's house, and to go to some of his relations in the Shire of Murray.

Inchdarnie rescued Mr Walter Dunoon, when he was sent South as prisoner. Inchdarnie lurked in Fife till May the 3rd at his Father's house. Thence Ayton went towards his Aunt the Lady Murdocairney's house; and not far from Auchtermuchty he saw a party of horse at some distance, riding most furiously to Cupar, upon which he rode a little hard to escape them, which one of them perceiving, broke off from the rest, by order of the Commander, and first wounded his horse and then wounded Inchdarnie mortally, by shooting two balls through his body, without ever asking any questions, or requiring him to surrender himself; and then the soldiers made him ride back with their party, and come with them to Cupar. It was with difficulty the gentleman could sit his horse, till he came to the next house, where he got the benefit of a bed, and sent for his relation, Sir John Ayton of that

<sup>1</sup> See chap. vii.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers.



Ilk, whose house was near by. Sir John came, and immediately despatched a servant to Cupar for a chirurgeon; but they did not allow one to leave the town without allowance from them. When they were applied to, some of their number were sent immediately to the place to bring the wounded man to Cupar; when they arrived at the house, Sir John Ayton represented the cruelty of taking the dying gentleman three miles to Cupar, and offered them bail, or to entertain them there, until the chirurgeons were brought, and they saw what would become of Inchdarnie.

But nothing could prevail; he was hurried away that night upon one of their horses to Cupar; he fainted four times through loss of blood. And the magistrates allowed him to be carried to an inn, where he died the following day about twelve of the clock, in much peace and serenity, with the comfort of his parents being with him at his death.

The soldier who had killed him was a relation of his, one William Auchmutie, and came to him professing much sorrow for what had happened, begging forgiveness, which Inchdarnie very cheerfully gave him, with some Christian advice.

Auchmutie died in the year 1682, under great terror from this fact.<sup>1</sup>

In 1590, Henry Pitcairn, heir-apparent of that Ilk, and eldest son of John, fourteenth lord of Forthar, had a caution in £400 for Thomas Ireland in Frewchy Mylne that he will not harm Patrick Murray, brother of Sir Andro Murray of Arngask and Balvaird.<sup>2</sup>

In 1587, Margaret Erskine, Lady Pitcairne, appears before the Privy Council and gives in a copy of the letters on the question raised by George, Earl Marschall, that she should give up her lands of Pitcairn to him. The Privy Council decided that she had the right to keep the lands of Pitcairn, and she won her case. There was a caution afterwards that he should obey her letters, and Lord Huntly was not to molest her any further.<sup>3</sup>

Mr John Pitcairn's life ended in sadness and trouble. Two of his daughters had died before him; his brother the Abbot, although a devoted servant to his King, had been banished through the influence of the infamous Arran. He was eventually pardoned by the King, through the exertions of Walsingham. He, however, only returned home to Eng-

<sup>1</sup> Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland, vol. iii. pp. 55, 56.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. P. C. Scot., 1590.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 1587.

land to die. His estates were wrested from him, and some of the lands that he had left by will to his brother John, and his nephew Henry, were forcibly taken from them, through the cupidity of King James VI. to increase his revenues, and as a marriage portion for his Queen.<sup>1</sup>

John's son Henry, though duly elected Commendator, was practically obliged to give up his office and infest Queen Anne with the lands in 1593. It is little to be wondered at that, with all this trouble and anxiety, it should be recorded in the Edinburgh Wills, that on the 28th Dec. 1593 John Pitcairn died (worn out by a succession of troubles).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh Register of Wills.

## CHAPTER XII.

## FIFTEENTH LAIRD, HENRY PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK.

HENRY PITCAIRN, fifteenth laird of the barony of Forthar and of Pitcairn, &c., of the barony of Dounfield, of Freuchy, and of Dovan, &c., Commendator of Dunfermline, succeeded his father, John Pitcairn, in 1593. Henry Pitcairn married, on May 1, 1586, Isabella, daughter of Sir Michael Balfour of Montquhanny; and his father, John, who was alive at the time of his marriage, infested Isabella, as Henry's affianced spouse, in the liferent of the lands of Easter Gellet, in the regality of Dunfermline and shire of Fife.<sup>1</sup>

They had five sons—1, David, the eldest, who succeeded to Forthar and the other estates; 2, Robert; 3, James; 4, John; 5, Andrew.

A long time before John's death, in the Register of the Privy Council, there is the complaint of Robert, Commendator of Dunfermline, in which it states that for his long and true service to his Majesty since his Coronation, it had pleased his Majesty lately, with the advice of his Council, "to gif and dispone to Henry Pitkarne, his broder's son, the Abbacy of Dunfermline, reservand onlie his owne lif rent of the samyn to himself." The Lords of Council again renew the charge that this is to be done, and order "John Grahame, depute to Colin, Erll of Argile, Chancellor, to do it." This was carried out.

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 1642, box 42.

The following is the Royal grant to Henry Pitcairn of the Abbey of Dunfermline:—

PROVISIO HENRICI PITCAIRNE AD ABBACIAM DE  
DUMFERMLING.

JACOBUS Dei gratia Rex Scotorum. Omnibus probis hominibus suis ad quos presentes literæ pervenerint salutem sciatis quia dedimus concessimus et disposuimus tenoremque presentium damus concedimus et disponimus dilecto nostro Henrico Pitcairne filio legitimo Magistro Joannis Pitcairne totum et integrum beneficium et monasterium de Dunfermling et jurisdictionem regalitatis eiusdem pro omnibus suæ vitæ diebus unacum omnibus et singulis terris dominiis locis domibus edificiis, castris, turribus, fortaliciis, maneriis, hortis, pomariis, molendinis, sylvis piscationibus, carbonibus carbonariis ecclesiis decimis garbalibus et aliis decimis fructibus annuis redditibus emolumentis firmis proficuis et devoriis prefato beneficio et monasterio pertinentibus seu quovis modo pertinere valentibus cum omnibus privilegiis et jurisdictionibus eidem pertinentibus seu similiter pertinere valentibus nunc de manibus nostris et ad nostram dispositionem vacans per dimissionem eiusdem in manibus nostris tanquam in manibus indubitati patroni eiusdem per Robertum Commendatarium de Dunfermling apud Halyruidhous cum omnibus jure et juris titulo interesse clameo et possessione quæ dictus commendatarius in et ad dictum beneficium et monasterium habuit habet seu quovismodo in futurum habere vel clamare poterit Salvo et reservato nihilominus prefato Roberto Commendatario de Dunfermling durante omnibus suæ vitæ diebus toto et integro prefato beneficiis et monasterio de Dunfermling et jurisdictione regalitatis eiusdem unacum omnibus et singulis terris dominiis locis domibus edificiis castris turribus fortaliciis maneriis hortis pomariis molendinis sylvis piscationibus carbonibus carbonariis ecclesiis decimis garbalibus et aliis decimis fructibus annuis redditibus emolumentis firmis proficuis canis gressimus custumis cum omnibus aliis proficuis et devoriis ad prefatum monasterium et beneficium spectantibus et pertinentibus seu quovismodo spectare et pertinere valentibus ac cum omnibus aliis privilegiis et jurisdictionibus eidem quomodo libet spectantibus et ingressu ad eadem ac si prefata dimissio nunquam facta fuisset. Ac etiam reservata prefato commendatario libera potestate vassallos et tenentes dicti beneficii et monasterii intrandi et assedationes faciendi commoditatem et proficuum earundem recipiendi durante vita sua simili modo et adeo libere sicuti ipse ante prefatam dimissionem facere potuisset Tenendum et habendum totum et integrum prefatum beneficium et monasterium de Dunfermling et regalitatem eiusdem unacum omnibus et singulis terris



dominiis locis domibus edificiis castris turribus fortaliciis maneriis locis hortis pomariis molendinis sylvis piscationibus carbonibus carbonariis ecclesiis decimis garbalibus aliisque decimis fructibus annuisque redditibus emolumentis firmis proficuis et devoriis prefato beneficio et monasterio pertinentibus seu quovismodo pertinere spectantibus cum omnibus aliis et singulis privilegiis et jurisdictionibus eiusdem similiter pertinentibus ut predicatur Prefato Henrico Pitcairne pro omnibus suæ vitæ diebus (salvo et reservato ut predicatur reservatur) cum plenaria potestate prefato Henrico per se ipsum suosque camerarios factores et servitores suo nomine omnes et singulos fructus redditus firmas devoriarum canas custumas proficua et emolumenta quocunque prefato beneficio et monasterio et jurisdictione regalitatis eiusdem spectantibus et pertinentibus intro-mittendi et levandi ac prefatum beneficium et jurisdictionem ejusdem predictum cum omnibus terris dominiis locis domibus edificiis castris turribus fortaliciis maneriis hortis pomariis molendinis multis sylvis piscationibus carbonibus carbonariis ecclesiis et decimis suprascriptis quibuscunque gaudendi et possidendi. Et eisdem assedationem feudifirman seu rentalia ad suum bene placitum omnibus temporibus affuturis durante vita sua locandi assedandi et in feudifirmam hereditarie dimittendi assedationes rentales et evidencias de super faciendi dandi et concedendi ac cum speciali potestate prefato Henrico in quantum ipse de jure poterit pro reductione quarumcunque infeofamentorum feudifirme rentalium assedationum seu aliarum dispositionum quarumcunque terrarum ecclesiasticarum et decimarum prefati beneficii et monasterii per quoscunque suos predicesores in diminutionem rentalis ejusdem vel aliter in contrarium factas datas et concessas vel pro contraventione seu non observatione quarumcunque conditionum seu provisionum in eisdem specificatarum seu ob quamcunque aliam rationem seu causam per quas dicte reductiones succedere poterint vocandi seu prosequendi. Ac cum potestate prefato Henrico pro reductione provisionum quarumcunque pensionis seu pensionum per quoscunque abbates seu commendatarios dicti monasterii quibuscunque personis habentibus seu pretendentes habere quarumcunque firmarum et proficuarum prefati monasterii contra ordinem jus et provisionem de super factas datas et concessas similiter vocandi et prosequendi Necnon cum potestate prefato Henrico Pitcairne per seipsum suosque camerarios ballivos granatores et officarios omnem jurisdictionem dicti monasterii utendi et exercendi et super omnes fructus decimas devoriarum quascunque firmas proficua et emolumenta eiusdem intromittendi levandi et disponendi in omnibus actionibus dicto beneficio concernentibus proprietatem et patrimonium seu jurisdictionem regalitatis eiusdem directe seu indirecte prosequendi et dependendi similiter et adeo libere et legitime in

omnibus respectibus casibus et conditionibus ac si dictus Henricus ad prefatum beneficium per quemcunque ordinem et modum ab antiquo observato provisus fuisset (Salvo et reservato prefato Roberto Commendatario de Dunfermling durante omnibus suæ vitæ diebus ut prescribitur reservativi absque quibuscunque impedimento clameo questione revocatione aut contradictione in contrarium quovismodo in futurum contra ipsum moventibus seu prosequentibus non obstantibus quibuscunque iuribus constitutionibus canonicis seu municipalibus spiritualibus seu temporalibus in contrarium factis seu fiendis que tendunt seu tendere poterunt ad damnum seu preiudicium prefate reservationis Nos pro nobis et successoribus nostris dispensamus et renunciamus easdem cum omnibus actione et interesse quæ nos aut nostri successores aut aliqui alii nostro nomine habemus seu habere poterimus ad prosequendum seu abjiciendum. Contra premissa cum pacto de eisdem de non prosequendo pro nunc et in perpetuum Salva omnimodo et reservata summa mille octingintarum triginta librarum sex solidorum monete regni nostri tanquam pro plena tertia dicti beneficii et monasterii ministris in ecclesiis eiusdem servientibus aut servituris ad particularem assignationem de super fiendam et faciendam et conformiter acto nostri parlamenti accordandam. Ac etiam mandamus dominis nostri consilii et cessionis ad concedendum et dirigendum nostras literas in quatuor formis ad instantiam prefati commendatorii in forma debita in talibus usitata et consueta. In cujus rei testimonium presentibus magnum sigillum nostrum apponi precipimus Apud Halyruidhous vicesimo sexto die mensis Decembris Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo octuagesimo secundo Et Regni nostri decimo sexto.<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding this Royal grant, instead of his nephew Henry succeeding Robert Pitcairn in the abbacy as Abbot, Patrick Gray, Master of Gray, who married Robert Pitcairn's widow, became Commendator. The reason why Gray was elected was this:—

“The Earl of Arran<sup>2</sup> was sent to ward at St Andrews. He sent his brother, Sir William, to the Master of Gray at midnight, promising to get unto him the Abbey of Dunfermling, so that he could obtain his liberty at his Majesty's hand, which was incontinently granted, and also the said Benefice disposed unto the said Master. Whereupon the English Ambassador was in a great rage at the Master, but their discord was afterward agreed. Only Mr John Maitland, the Justice-Clerk, and the Earl of Arran were also ordered

<sup>1</sup> Acts of the Privy Council. Original MS. in Gen. Register House, Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs.

to their houses. The Earl of Huntly in the meantime procured a Gift of the Benefice of Dunfermling, which was lately taken from the Master of Gray now decourted and given to him. Gray fell into disgrace and proved himself an infamous character, for when sent to England to procure the Queen of Scots' acquittal, he conspired for her death, and it ended in his banishment." Lord Huntly the Earl Marschall then became Commendator, but behaved so graspingly that Melville states, "John Lindsay advised the Danish Ambassadors to see the Queen's Contract of marriage fulfilled, alledging that the Chancellour (Huntly), who had made it, had left out the Rents of the Abbey of Dunfermling fraudfully, and had taken in fee to himself all the Lordship of Musselburgh.

"For this end two Ambassadors were sent from Denmark, upon whom I was appointed to attend, to see them well entertained. So the Chancellour was caused to renounce his part.

"Because my brother Sir Robert was absent, young Sir Robert, his son, and I obliged, as that his part, which was 13 Chalders of Victual, should be also renounced at his return, which was accordingly done. His Majesty promised to him as much heritage in another part, in respect that his gift was obtained long before the Contract of Marriage."<sup>1</sup>

Altogether this period shows a terrible picture of self-seeking, and sordid qualities on all hands, which fill any thinking reader with disgust.

Although the Church lands were given up to Queen Anne of Denmark on the 17th May 1590, when she was infest and gat possession of the Lordship of Dunfermling, Henry Pitcairn was, notwithstanding, elected Commendator of the Abbey, with the consent of such of the Convent that remained in 1593. He was the last of the Abbots, the Commendatorship was abolished, and the Office of Commendator, by the General Act of Annexation, was delivered into the hands of the Queen, and Mr William Shaw received the rents for her.<sup>2</sup>

Divers others who had portions of these lands were likewise compelled to renounce them, either voluntarily or by a new law made for that effect. Neither Melville nor his brother came well out of this transaction, for they took pretty good care that although some of their lands were given up to the King, they were recompensed by him in an equivalent elsewhere, but they had not the smallest

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs, p. 166.

<sup>2</sup> Murray's Life and Acts of Parliament, vol. ii. p. 681.

scruple in taking away the land from others without giving them compensation.

In 1594, on the 7th March, King James conveyed Henry Pitcairn's lands to his Queen.

The charter runs as follows:—

Charter by King James the Sixth to his spouse Anne, Queen of Scotland, of the Monastery and Abbacy of Dunfermline, with the lands and revenues thereof, as therein described, following on resignation thereof by *Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, who was lawfully provided thereto*, and which the King incorporated into a free temporal lordship, suppressing the name of the monastery.<sup>1</sup>

“‘Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk,’ nephew of Robert Pitcairn, is styled Commendator in 1593, and his name might have been added to the list of Abbots, although not strictly one of that number. In that year he resigned his trust to Queen Anne of Denmark, she having obtained the abbacy for her life from James VI., on the morning after their marriage at Upslo in 1589, and it having been confirmed to her by Crown Charter in 1593. In the same year the abbacy was perpetually annexed to the Crown by Act of Parliament; and the infestment then given by James, on Pitcairn's resignation, to his Queen and heirs, with all infestments granted by her, was ratified by Parliament in 1612. This whole transaction may, doubtless, be traced to royal cupidity, and at the suggestion of some parasitical, worldly minded courtiers, whereby the Church was stripped of a large portion of its once vast possessions.”<sup>2</sup>

The King had granted Henry Pitcairn the office of Commendator, and the revenues thereof, and the Lords of Council had approved, and it was duly signed and ratified by the Council, in Robert Pitcairn's lifetime. Evidently, however, the King could not resist the temptation of taking the property. It was near his palace of Dunfermline, under his own eye, very valuable, and so he simply took it. In 1595, Aug. 24, there is a deed drawn up.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxix. No. 248.

<sup>2</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, vol. i. pp. 203, 204.



The king sets at feu ferme to Henry Pitcairne of that Ilke, son and heir of the late John Pitcairne of that Ilk, the sixteenth part of the lands of Kingskettle in the Lordship and Sheriffdom of Fife.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1611, on March 14, King James VI. re-granted or returned to Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk the lands of Forthar, &c. No doubt Pitcairn felt insecure unless a deed were drawn up re-conveying to him his paternal inheritance, and the King, too, may have wished to make some reparation for the forcible alienation of the other properties. The charter runs as follows:—

ROYAL CHARTER BY KING JAMES VI. TO HENRY PITCAIRN  
OF PITCAIRN AND FORTHAR.

“1611, *March 14*. Charter by the King to Henry Pitcairne of that Ilk in liferent, and to David Pitcairne, his eldest son and apparent heir, and the heirs-male of his marriage with Marion Menteith, which failing, to the lawful heirs-male of the said David, bearing the sirname and arms of Pitcairne, irredeemably, of the 16th part of the lands of Kings Kettle, two 12th parts of the lands of Kilmaron, in the Shire of Fife. Also to the said David and his heirs above written, the lands of the Mayns of Forthar, with fortalice, manor, mill, and lands of Downfield, with fortalice and manor, another 16th part of Kings Kettle, the mills of Freuchy, &c.”<sup>2</sup>

(The king's re-grant of the barony of Forthar would give the grantee and his heirs baronial rights; it would probably not make them *peers*.)

In 1609, Feb. 23, Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, David and James, his lawful sons, are witnesses to a charter by John Paterson of Hiltarvet.<sup>3</sup>

And the next year—

1610, on December 26, Henry sells, with the consent of Isabella Balfour his spouse, to his brother-german, Robert Pitcairne of Down-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xli. No. 442.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. xlvi. No. 334.

<sup>3</sup> Laing Charters, No. 943, box 26.

field, of the lands of Easter Gellet in the regality of Dunfermline. Signed at Forthar, the witnesses being David Pitcairn, burghess of Dunfermling, James Pitcairne, son of the said Henry Pitcairne.<sup>1</sup>

In the same year Henry of Forthar's eldest son David was married, and Henry gave his son's bride for her marriage portion the rent of the lands, &c., of Freuchy. The charter runs:—

On the 16th January 1611 Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, and David Pitcairn his eldest son, in terms of marriage-contract between the said David Pitcairn, with his father's consent, on the one part, and Mariota Menteith, daughter of Sir William Menteith of Kerse, Knight, with consent of the latter on the other part, of date Dec. 11, 1610, infesting the said Mariota as future spouse of the said David Pitcairn in life-rent, in the mill and mill lands of Freuchy, in the lordship and stewartry of Fife.<sup>2</sup>

Robert Pitcairn of Downfield is a witness (David's uncle).

In 1593-94. There is a registration by Mr Henry Balfour (advocate) in a bond of caution for £1000 by Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, subscribed at Edinburgh; and the same year, 1594, it is also stated in the Register of the Privy Council that Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk was surety of 1000 merks for his Cousin Andro Pitcairne of Innernethy, not to harm Mr Archibald Moncrieff and Minister at Abernethy, written by Mr Andro Pitcairne scribe, and subscribed at Pitcairn, before David Pitcairn, and John Brown of Fordel. David Pitcairn was Henry's eldest son, who succeeded him.<sup>3</sup>

In 1613, Henry Pitcairn was one of the Commissioners of the Peace for Fife and Kinross. He also had on the bench with him, "Patrick Pitcairn of Pitlour, his cousin, David Lindsay of the Mount, and William Pitcairn of Kirk-town, grandson of Henry Pitcairn of Pitlour." Again—

In 1615, Commission is given to Sir John Boiswall of Balmuto and Sir James Weemis of Bogy, David Beaton of Balfour (cousin to Henry Pitcairn), Henry Pitcairn of Forthir, James Clark of Balbirnie, or any three of them, to try prisoners.

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 559, box 16.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., No. 1643, box 42.

<sup>3</sup> Registers of the Privy Council, reign of James VI.

In 1618, on January 28, Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk was served heir to Janet Pitcairn, lady of Downy, and his uncle in the lands of Downy, or Dovan Easter and Wester.<sup>1</sup>

It was these lands, the possession of which was disputed by the Balfours and Pitcairns.

Robert Pitcairn, Henry's second son, was at Court as his uncles were. In 1625, Dec. 21, there is a grant to Robert Pitcairn, Groom of the Privy Chamber, of £60 per annum:<sup>2</sup> and on the 21st—

Pars undecima, No. 21, Acta Publica : Foed., vol. xviii. R. 625.

Pro Roberto Pytcarne.

Rex vicesimo quarto Die decembris Consessit Roberto Pytcarne Summam triginta Librarum, ac etiam annuallem. Pensionem, sexaginta Librarum, durante Vita.

A.D. 1625, an. 1, Charles I.

August 1622, three years before, Henry of Forthar is mentioned as signing a deed for his cousin of Innerneathy, which was witnessed by Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, and Robert Pitcairn, his son, who is called in it servitor to a Serene Prince, Charles of Great Britain, France, and Ireland. David Seatoun of Urquhart, parish of Strathmeglo, John Philp and (his son John Philp) Clerk of Newburgh, are witnesses also.<sup>3</sup>

In the decree of 1629, it states :—

Comperit George Bruce of Carnock, and producet ane Charter of few ferme, maid and grantit be Robert, Commendator of Dunfermling, with consent of the Convent yairof, to Mr Johne Pitcairne of that Ilk, his brother, of the lands of Roscobie and Weddergrange and of the landis of Easter and Wester Gelletis and Lymekills Toun and Port yrof cum decimis inclusis, daitit the 21st day of August, anno 1581. Confermet by his Umqu. Majestie the last day of May, anno 1582. Ilks Landis—viz., Roscobie and Weddergrange—now heretablelie belongis to Robert Mowbray, and the saidis landis of Wester Gellet to my Lord Bruce of Kinloss and the said George Bruce.

*Note.*—They now belong to the Earl of Elgin.

In 1629, therefore, all the Pitcairn lands near and in Dun-

<sup>1</sup> General Retours for the County of Fife.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

<sup>3</sup> Laing Charters, No. 1643, box 42.

fermline were now belonging to others, excepting Easter Gellet, which Henry Pitcairn's brother, Robert of Downfield, still possessed, and the lands of Pittencrieff, which belonged to the Phins, who were descendants of Henry Pitcairn, brother of the Commendator.

In 1637 Sir James Halkett of Pittfirane and his son acquired the lands of Lymekills from James Phin.

Captain George Phin was the proprietor of Pittencrieff as late as 1785.<sup>1</sup>

In 1625, on December 6, there is sasine following on charter by Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk and David Pitcairn, his son and heir, in favour of Thomas Wood, Shipmaster, and Margaret Halkett his spouse, of an annual rent of 180 merks from the lands of Mains of Forthar. It is witnessed by Henry and Thomas Pitcairn, sons of the late Robert Pitcairn of Downfield, &c.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Wood and his wife were probably near connections of the Pitcairns.

This charter is also mentioned in the Laing Charters, where the lands are called "the lands of Mains of Ramsays-Forthar, Fife."

Henry Pitcairne still kept up his interest in public affairs. He was Justice of the Peace, and as late as 1623 there was a Commission under the Signet to Henry Pitcairn of Forthar, David Brown of Finmouth, James Clark of Balbirnie, &c., to try prisoners.<sup>3</sup> Henry certainly had many vexations in the earlier part of his life; but for many years before its close he lived quietly and peacefully, filling his position as a country gentleman, sitting on the bench, settling various disputes, and looking after his property. He died in 1626. He left five sons—1, David, who succeeded; 2, Robert; 3, James; 4, John; and 5, Andrew.

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, *Hist. of Dunfermline*, vol. i., Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, No. 2358, No. 60.

<sup>3</sup> *Reg. of Privy Council of Scotland*.



## CHAPTER XIII.

## ANDREW PITCAIRN, CHIEF FALCONER TO KING CHARLES I.

BEFORE I enter on the short biographical notice of David Pitcairn of Forthar, eldest son of Henry, and his heir, it may be of interest to insert here an account of his youngest brother, Andrew Pitcairn.

From an early age Andrew, Robert, Patrick, and David Pitcairn, were servitors or pages to Sir Alexander Seaton, afterwards Earl of Dunfermline. The latter had the charge of the two young children of James VI. Andrew Pitcairn was called servitor to the Duke of York,<sup>1</sup> afterwards Charles I., and so were Robert and David. David is mentioned as a favourite of the young prince also.

On the 20th day of Nov. 1599, the Queen had given birth to a son (Charles) at Dunfermline, and on the day of his christening he was created Lord of Ardmanocke, Earl of Ross, Marquis of Ormonde, and Duke of Albany; and within six days thereafter, his Majesty made a great feast to his nobility and lords of his Privy Council, and to honour the feast the more, he created Lord Livingstone Earl of Linlithgow, Lord Seaton, Earl of Winton, and Sir Robert Ker of Cessford, Earl of Roxburgh, and sundry gentlemen he knighted.

Charles was a very peevish child, and used to annoy his parents dreadfully by his cries during the night. He was one night puling in his cradle, which lay in an apartment opening from the bedroom of the King and Queen, when the nurse employed to tend him

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<sup>1</sup> Register of the Privy Council.

suddenly alarmed the Royal pair by a loud scream, followed up by the exclamation, "Eh! my bairn!" The King started out of bed on hearing the noise, and ran into the room where the child lay, crying, "Hout, tout, what's the matter wi' ye, nursie?" "Oh," exclaimed the woman, "there was like an auld man came into the room, and threw his cloak owre the Prince's cradle; and syne drew it till him again, as if he had ta'en cradle, bairn, and a' away wi' him. I'm feared it was the thing that's no canny." "Fiend, nor he had ta'en the girin' brat clean away!" said King James, whose demonological learning made him at once see the truth of the nurse's observation; "gin he ever be King, there'll be nae gude a' his ring [reign]; the deil has cusen [cast] his cloak owre him already!"

This story is generally told, and in the same manner, by the aged and more primitive portion of the inhabitants of Dunfermline, and the latter part of the King's observation is proverbial in the town, it being common to say to a mislearned or ill-conditioned person, "I daresay the deil has cusen his cloak owre you!"<sup>1</sup>

Alexander, Earl of Dunfermline, had left to his custody and keeping by King James and Queen Anne, when their Majesties went to England, their second son Charles, then not three years of age, "whom he kept in his house some years and carried him into England himself, to the King and Queen's Majesty, well and in health, for which faithful service they were thankful to him."<sup>2</sup> Upon the birth of Prince Henry, 1593, he was intrusted to his tuition, till he went to England, 1603, so that the earl evidently had charge of both these princes in their childhood and youth.

Alexander, first Earl of Dunfermline, was third son of George, sixth Lord Seaton. He was Lord High Chancellor in 1604, Earl of Dunfermline in 1606, and died at Pinkie, near Musselburgh, 1622. Pinkie had been the country-house of the Abbots of Dunfermline. The most northern part of the present building is considered the oldest, and comprehends a massive square tower with picturesque turrets, the lower part of which is admitted to be as old as the original edifice. One of the apartments is called the King's Room, having a very high roof, in which Prince Charles Edward slept after the battle of Prestonpans. The

<sup>1</sup> Chalmers, Hist. of Dunfermline, vol. i. p. 92.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Account of the Family of Seaton.

painted gallery on the uppermost floor is an arched room, 120 feet in length, well lighted by an oriel window. The roof is richly decorated, and both it and the sloping sides are covered with paintings. On the forfeiture of the Dunfermline earldom, the house and grounds were bought by the Tweeddale family, and from them by purchase in 1778 by Sir Archibald Hope of Craig Hall, in whose family it still remains.

In 1613 the Earl of Dunfermline altered Pinkie House, and made it a beautiful place. Lord Dunfermline was buried in a vault in the old parish church of Dalgetty.

LETTER OF THE EARL OF DUNFERMLINE TO JOHN MURRAY.

*July 8, 1614.*

RIGHT HONORABILL COUSING,

I recommend to yiou specialie at this tyme to Bruntisland, Sir Robert Meluill, and to my Lady Roxborough, my sister. As to onye sic occurrence as we haue heir, I doubt not bot yie ar participant to sic as my Lord Secretair recites to His Majesty; for all is heir (praised be God) quiet, in good justice and obedience. Thus ending this present, wisses yiou all weil and happiness.

Yiour louing Coussing to serve yioue,

DUNFERMELYNE.

From Halyruid House, 8th *July* 1614.

To the Right Honorabill, my assured good friend  
JOHNE MURRAY, in his Majesties' bed-chalmer.

Patrick Pitcairn is mentioned as rebellious to Lord Seton in 1603, and therefore he must have been page to him.

In 1605 Sir Alexander Seatoun went to London and delivered up the Royal children to their parents, and no doubt the pages went with the princes to England. His sister, Lady Jane Roxburgh, had been governess to the Royal children, and was duly rewarded later on.

In 1617, March 14, at Westminster, there was a warrant to pay to Lady Jane Roxburgh, Lady of the Bed-chamber to the Queen, £3000, as a free gift for long and faithful

service. The children were with her for years, and she showed great kindness and discretion in the care of them.

Several of the Pitcairns' relations were at Court at this time, Alexander Moncrieff amongst the number. In 1600 he was Master Falconer to James VI., afterwards became Sir Alexander Moncrieff of Balcaskie, and later redeemed the lands of Wester Pitlour from Andro Pitcairn of Inner-nethy (cousin of the Forthar Pitcairns), by paying him 3000 merks. This Andro Pitcairn was brother of Janet Pitcairn, who married Mr Moncrieff, and she was a daughter of James Pitcairn of Abernethy. (See Innernethy Branch.)

Andrew Pitcairn was a *persona grata* at Court, and the first mention of him is in a letter of King James VI. to Patrick Murray, which is as follows:—

JAMES REX, Royston, Herts. 19th October 1612, £1800 paid by Patrick Murray, we haif assigned and be the tenoure heir of assignes be payet to Maister Andro Pitcarne, servitour to our well-beloved sone, the Duik of York. Thairfoir it is oure will, and we command you the said Patrick Murray to answer, obey, and make payment to the said Maister Andro Pitcarne of the sowme above written.

In 1623, on March 8, at Westminster, there was a grant to Andro Pitcairne, Groom of the Bed-chamber, of an annuity of £200 on his surrender of annuities of a similar amount to William Snelling, fishmonger, of London, and Elizabeth, his wife.<sup>1</sup> Andro Pitcairn must therefore have been for a long time in the service of Prince Charles and James VI., for as far back as 1612 King James had given him the £1800 just mentioned, when he was only a boy. There was quite a little coterie of friends and relations at Court—Patrick, Andro, David, and Robert Pitcarne; their cousins, the three Auchmuties, John, Alexander, and George; Robert Ayton and the Murrays, other cousins. They had all been much with the Earl of Dunfermline, some as pages, and were great friends of his. The latter's sister, Lady Jane Roxburgh, was a great personage at the Court, and would no doubt be very kind to her countrymen

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, James VI.



and friends. Her husband, Sir Robert Ker of Cessford, had been made Earl of Roxburgh at the christening of the Prince Charles at Dunfermline. The Moncrieffs also, cousins of the Pitcairns, were Falconers at Court, and in 1604, May 12 (Calendar, State Papers), there was "a commission to Alexander and George Moncrieff to take up hawks and hawks' meat in such sort as Sir Robert Dormer, Master of the Hawks, has commissioned them to do."

In 1617, May 24, there is a note by the Lord Chamberlain to Carleton, describing the gay attire of the burghers of Edinburgh when the King visited that city:—

The Burghers of Edinburgh received the King in scarlet gowns, 100 of them were in velvet coats and gold chains, and 300 musketeers in white satin doublets and velvet hose, and they gave him £10,000 in gold.<sup>1</sup>

In 1625 there was a project for establishing a special Register Office of the Marches of Wales: it was indorsed by Mr Pitcairn, so that he must then have filled the office of secretary.<sup>2</sup>

Sir Robert Ayton at this time was given the Provostship of Eton, and on July 12, 1603, there was a grant to Alexander Auchmuty of £2000 out of the penalties adjudged to the Crown in the Court of Common Pleas.<sup>3</sup>

In the year 1625, James VI. died, and his son Charles I. was crowned King, May 15, at Whitehall. "Secretary Conway wrote to the Attorney-General, Coventry, to prepare several grants of £500 pension to the Grooms of the Bedchamber of the late king—namely, Thomas Cavill, James Leviston, Andro Pitcairn, George Kirk, William Murray, and Endymion Pater. On the 25th of the same month the grant was drawn up, and a pension given of £500 per annum for life to Andro Pitcairn.<sup>4</sup> James VI. had been very kind to Pitcairn: he had given him, in 1612, £1800, and in 1623 he had an annuity of £200 a-year; on King Charles's accession he carried on King James's kindness by

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, vol. xciv.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. cxc.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. No. 20.

<sup>4</sup> Minute Conway's Letter-Book, p. 12. Calendar of Domestic State Papers.

giving him a pension of £500 a-year for life; and on May 1525, at Whitehall, in the same year, he had a grant drawn up, to give Andro Pitcairn the place of Master of the Hawks."

In 1608, in December, there had been a petition by Alexander Moncrieff, Falconer to the King, for augmentation of his allowance as Master of the Hawks. "On his first coming to London with his Majesty he had three casts of hawks and six falconers, and was allowed £20 a-month, but being now burdened with six casts of hawks and three falconers more, he cannot do upon the allowance without great loss. Added to his petition is a report thereon by Lord Dunbar, that he must of necessity have an augmentation of £10 a-month, and that Sir Thomas Lake should draw up a patent for his life to that effect. The foregoing entry shows that the Master Falconer had nine falconers under him and six casts of hawks, and Andrew Pitcairn, when he was appointed Chief Falconer, was allowed £30 a-month and 10s. a-day for hawks' meat."

In 1625, on 1st Sept., Andro Pitcairn wrote to Secretary Conway from Holdbury: "It is the King's pleasure that he [Sec. Conway] should signify to the Master of the Wards that Mr Hay should have his demand."<sup>1</sup>

On 25th Sept. 1626, at Whitehall, there is a note of a letter written by Sec. Conway to Mr Cary, Mr Pitcairn, or Mr Kirk, sending them instructions which are to be presented to his Majesty for signature. On 27th July of the same year, the King granted to Andro Pitcairn for life the office of Master Surveyor and Keeper of his Majesty's Hawks, with the accustomed fee of £30 a-month and 10s. per diem for provision of meat for the hawks. He therefore now has £500 a-year annuity and £360 per annum as Chief Falconer.

The following are two Royal Grants by Charles I.:—

1. To Andrew Pitcairn as Gentleman Usher.
2. To Andrew Pitcairn, giving him the office of Chief Falconer.

<sup>1</sup> Domestic Series of State Papers, Charles I.

ROYAL GRANT BY KING CHARLES I.<sup>1</sup>

A.D. 1625.

De Concessione speciali Jacobo Cleghorne—aliis assedis Domini Regis—

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, &c.

To all to whome these Presentes shall come, Greeting.

Whereas Wee are given to understand that Our Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters by reason of the smallness of their Entertainments, incidente to their Places, allowed unto them by Our most noble Predecessor, at the firste Institution thereof, and never sithence augmented, and the frequente Service they are perpetuallie subjecte unto, are not equall unto any other our Servauntes of that Rancke ;

And whereas James Cleghorn, Humphrey Dethicke, Alexander Dunfithe, ANDREW PITCAIRNE, Edward Ellis, Ambrose Wheeler, Francis Baxter and John Leech, Our Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters, have become humble Suitors unto Us, that We would be graciously pleased to double their Fees, which auncientlie they have enjoyed, for Creations & other Degrees of Honour, by Us graunted or to be graunted for the Creation of any Prince, Duke, Marquess, Earle, Viscounte, Baron, Bishoppe, or Knighte ;

And whereas We have accordingly received Certificate from Our righte trustye and right welbeloved Cozen and Councillor, William Earl of Pembroke Lord Chamberleyne of Our Householde, that the Entertainementes of Our said Servauntes or Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Wayters are lesser and shorter than any of our Servauntes of their Rancke and Qualitie, & that they are subjecte to contynuall Service and Attendance ;

Knowe yee therefore that Wee, For and in Consideration of the good acceptable and faithful Service heretofore done to us, and to Our late deere and royall Father of ever blessed Memory deceased, by them the said James Cleghorne, Humphrey Dethicke, Alexander Dunfithe, ANDREW PITCAIRNE, Edward Ellis, Ambrose Wheeler, Francis Baxter, and John Leech, and for the better Advancement of our Service, and for divers other good Causes and Considerations Us hereunto especiallie moving, of Our especiale Grace, certeyne Knowledge and meere Motion—

Have given and graunted, and by these Presents, for Us Our Heires and Successors, doe give and graunte unto the said James Clegorne, Humphrey Dethicke, Alexander Dunfithe, Ambrose Wheeler, Francis Baxter, and John Leech, that they, the said James Clegorne, Humphrey Dethicke, Alexander Dunfithe, ANDREW

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<sup>1</sup> *Fœdera*, vol. viii. p. 10, n. 14.

PITCARNE, Edwarde Ellis, Ambrose Wheeler, Frauncis Baxter, and John Leech, now Our Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters, shall have, receive, take and enjoy double the Fees heretofore accustomed to be due & payable unto them, by any Graunte or Custome thereof had or made by Us or any of Our Progenitors or Predecessors, at such times as they shall growe due or payable from or by any Person or Persons advanced to any the Degrees of Honour aforesaide, & in such Proportion Manner and Forme as hereafter is declared, that is to say—They the said Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters shall have and receive for or upon the Creation of any Prince the Somme of sixe and twentie Pounds thirteene Shillings and eighte Pence.

For the Creation of a Duke the Fee or Somme of twenty Poundes.

For the Creation of a Marques thirteen Pounds, six Shillings and eight Pence.

For the Creation of every Earle the Fee or Somme of ten Poundes.

For the Creation of everye Viscount the Somme of eighte Poundes.

And for the Creation of every Baron the somme of six Poundes thirteene shillings fower pence.

And for the Consecration of every Bishoppe the Fee or somme of fower Poundes.

And for the Honour and Dignity of a Knighthood the Fee or Somme of fower Poundes.

Of lawfull Money of Englande, to be from tyme to tyme paid and satisfied unto them by such Person or Persons who shall have conferred upon them anie such Dignitie or Degrees of Honour aforesaid :

To have, hold, receive, perceive, take and enjoy the said several Fees and everie of them in Manner and Forme aforesaid, unto the said James Cleghorne, Humfrye Dethicke, Alexander Dunsithe, ANDREW PITCAIRN, Edward Ellis, Ambrose Wheeler, Frauncis Baxter, and John Leech, dureing the terms of their naturall Lives from tyme to tyme as they shall grow due, from any Person or Persons advaunced to any of the same Degrees of Honour as aforesaid.

Reserving allwayes such Fees and Fees to such Person and Persons, succeeding them in their severall Places, as were heretofore graunted and allowed by Our late Royall Father of blessed Memory, and theis Presents, or the Inrollment thereof, shall be unto the said Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters before named and everie of them, a Sufficient Warrant Discharge and Exoneration for the demanding, haveing receivinge, taking and enjoying of the said Sommes or Fees aforesaid, to them hereby graunted or mentioned



to be graunted, and every Part and Parcell of them and every of them ;

And furthur Wee doe by theis Presents for Us Our Heirs and Successors, will and require, appointe and declare that all Person and Persons that hereafter, by Our Grace and Favour, shall be advaunced to the Degrees and Honours of Princes, Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Viscountes, Barons, Bishoppes or Knights, shall every of them, upon their Advancement to the same Degrees of Honour, pay or cause to be paid unto Our said Gentlemen Ushers Quarter Waiters, herein before named, such Somme and Sommes of Money as are before in and by theis Presents graunted or mentioned to be graunted unto them, according to Our Pleasure herein before declared—

Although expresse mention, &c.

In Witnes whereof, &c.

Witness Our Selfe att Westminster the nineteenth Day of Februarie.

Per Breve de Privato Sigillo.

ROYAL GRANT BY KING CHARLES I. TO ANDREW PITCAIRN OF THE  
OFFICE OF MASTER SURVEYOR OF HIS HAWKS.<sup>1</sup>

De Concessione ad Vitam pro ANDREA PITCAIRNE, Armigero,  
A.D. 1625.

CHARLES, by the grace of God, &c. To the Threasorer, Comptroller, Cofferer, and other the Officers of Our Houshold nowe and for the tyme being, and to all others to whome these Presents shall come, greeting.

Whereas we have committed unto Our trustie and welbeloved Servant ANDREWE PITCARNE Esquier, one of the Grooms of Our Bedchamber, the charge of Our Hawkes, to the Intent he may from tyme to tyme by himselfe or his Deputy, with other Our Falconers and Servants attend Us with Hawkes for our Disport and Recreation ;

Knowe ye that We for divers good Causes and Considerations Us thereunto especiallie movinge, of Our especiall Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Motion, have given and graunted, and by these Presents for Us Our Heires and Successors, doe give and graunt unto Our said Servant ANDREWE PITCARNE, the Office or Offices, Place or Places of Master Surveyor and Keeper of Our Hawks, and him the said ANDREWE PITCARNE, Master Surveyor and Keeper of our Hawkes, We doe make, ordeyne, constitute and appointe by these Presents ; to have holde exercise and enjoy the said Office and

<sup>1</sup> Rymer's *Fœdera* ; *Acta Publica*, vol. xviii. p. 869.

Offices, Place and Places, unto the said ANDREWE PITCARNE, for and during the Terme of his naturall Life ;

Know ye alsoe that We, for and in Consideration of the Charge, Service and Attendance incident to the said Office or Offices, Place or Places, of Our more especiall Grace, certen Knowledge and meere Motion, have given and graunted, and by these Presents, for Us Our Heires and Successors, doe give and graunt unto the said ANDREWE PITCARNE, as well a certen Allowance Pension or Somme of thirtie Poundes of lawfull Money of England by the Moneth, accompting eight and twentie Daies to every Moneth, for the enterteynment of him and such as necessarilie must attend that Service, As alsoe another Allowance, Pension or Somme of ten shillings of like lawfull Money by the Day for the Provision of Pigeons, Hennes and other Meate for our Hawkes ; to have, holde, receive, perceive, take and enjoye both the said severall Allowances or Pensions of thirty Pounds a Moneth, and ten Shillings by the Day, unto him the said ANDREWE PITCARNE or his Assignes, from the Day of the Date of these Presents, for and during the Terme of his naturall Life, to be monthlie paid from tyme to tyme out of the Treasure or Monies remayning in the Custody of the Cofferer of Our Householde, by the handes of the Cofferer of our Householde for the tyme being, the first Payment thereof to begin at the end of the Moneth next ensuing after the Date of these presents according to the Computation aforesaid.

Although expresse mention, &c.

In Witnes whereof, &c.

Witnes Our Selve at Westminster the one and thirtieth Day of July.

Per Breve de Privato Sigillo.

DE CONCESSIONE ALLOCATIONIS ANDREE PITCARNE, Armigero,  
A.D. 1625. An. 1, Car. 1.<sup>1</sup>

CHARLES, by the grace of God, &c. To Our right trusty and right welbeloved Councillor, James Lord Ley Our High Treasurer of England, & Our trustie and right welbeloved Councillor, Sir Richard Weston Knight Chauncellor and Undertreasurer of Our Exchequer, to the Treasurer, Commissioners for the Treasurie, Undertreasurer and Chamberlaines of the Exchequer, of Us Our Heirs and Successors for the tyme being and to all others to whome theis Presents shall come, Greeting :

Forasmuch as it is Our Pleasure that Our trustie and welbeloved Servant ANDREW PITCAIRNE, Esq., one of the Groomes of Our

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<sup>1</sup> *Fœdera*, vol. xviii.

Bedchamber according to his Office of Master Surveyor and Keeper of Our Hawkes, shall from tyme to tyme by himself or his Deputie, with other our Falconers and Servants, attend Us with Hawkes for our Disport and Recreation, Knowe yee that Wee, of Our special Grace, certain Knowledge and meere Motion, and in Consideration of the Chardge and Service incident to the said Attendance, have given & granted, and by theis Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, doe give and graunte unto the said ANDREW PITCAIRNE, as well an Allowance of Thirty Pounds by the Moneth, accounting Eight and Twenty Days to the Moneth, for the Entertainment of him and such as shall necessarilie attend that Service, as also another Allowance of Ten Shillings by the Day, for the Provision of Pigeons, Hens and other Meates for Our Hawkes ;

To have, hold and enjoy and receive both the said Allowances, unto him the said ANDREWE PITCAIRNE or his Assignes, from the Feast Day of the Annuntiation of the blessed Virgin Mary last past before the Date hereof, for and during Our Pleasure and the same to be paid monthley as aforesaid to the said ANDREWE PITCAIRNE or his Assignes, out of Our Treasure from tyme to tyme remaining in the Receipt of our Exchequer, by the handes of the Treasurer, Commissioners for the Treasurie, Undertreasurer and Chamberlaines there for the tyme being.

In Witnes, &c.

Witnes Our Self at Westminster, the Twelveth Day of May.

Per Breve de Privato Sigillo.

In 1611, on July 6, there is an interesting item in a letter to the Earl of Nottingham to Carleton, to give warrants to keepers of divers parks, to serve the Lady Elizabeth, daughter of the King, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, the Farmers of the Customs, the Tellers of the Exchequer, the Merchant Taylors and Cloth Workers Company, the *King's Falconers* and Foreign Ambassadors, with bucks, according to the King's direction. It will be seen that the King's Falconers were those honoured with the King's bounty ; for hawking and everything connected with falconry was very highly esteemed in the olden days, and a hawking-pouch was considered an honourable distinction — often worn by the nobility and gentry. One of the Somervilles of Camnethan was called Sir John with the Red Bag, because it was his wont to have his hawking-pouch made with satin of that colour.

To be appointed Master Falconer to the King was in the days of Charles I. to be elected to a very honourable office; and down to the middle of the seventeenth century falconry was followed with an ardour that perhaps no sport in our country ever called forth—not even fox-hunting.

Stringent laws and enactments—notably in the reigns of William the Conqueror, Edward III., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth—were passed from time to time in its interest. Falcons and hawks were allotted to degrees and orders of men, according to rank and station; for instance—to royalty the jerfalcons, to an earl the peregrine, to a yeoman the goshawk, to a priest the sparrow-hawk, and to a knave or servant the useless kestrel.<sup>1</sup>

The hawks in England at the present time are the three great Northern falcons—viz., the Greenland, Iceland, and Norway falcons—the peregrine falcons, the hobby, the merlin, the goshawk, and the sparrow-hawk. In former days the Saker, the Lanner, and the Barbary or Tunisian falcon were also employed. The Greenland, Iceland, and Norway falcons are called gyrfalcons, from their gyrations through the air.

In the reign of Edward III. the punishment was death to any one who maliciously killed a falcon.

The aim of the falconer must be to have his hawks always keen, and the appetite when they are brought into the field should be such as would induce the bird in a state of nature to put forth its full powers to obtain its food, with as near as possible a corresponding condition as to flesh.

On the left leg of each falcon, and also beneath the feathers, is a small brass bell, and on each of their legs is a “jess” or strap of thin leather neatly fastened round it. The ends of each pair of jesses are attached by slits in them to a brass swivel, made in the form of a figure 8, and through the farther end of this swivel is passed the leash by which it is firmly tied down to the perch by means of a “falconer’s” knot.

<sup>1</sup> Sir Walter Scott.



“The process of training hawks is a difficult and lengthy one. When first taken a rafter hood should be put on her head, and she must be furnished with jesses, swivel, leash, and bell. A thick glove, or rather gauntlet, must be worn on the left hand. She must be carried about as much as possible late into the night, and every day constantly stroked with a bird’s wing or feather, very lightly at first. At night she should be tied to a perch in a room with the window darkened, so that no light can enter in the morning. She will be easily induced to feed by drawing a piece of beef-steak over her feet, brushing her legs at the time with a wing. Later on she should be fed with pigeons and other birds.”<sup>1</sup> The falconers of the present day are the descendants in a direct line of the ones in the olden times, who prided themselves on their proficiency in this kingly sport.

The hawks get very fond of their falconer. In the words of an old writer they “rejoyce”—that is, jump towards him and show their pleasure. It is no easy task to train falcons, and unwearied patience and perseverance is required; but when once accomplished the falconer finds his hawks his faithful and devoted feathered friends.

<sup>1</sup> From Lodge’s article in ‘English Illustrated Magazine.’

## CHAPTER XIV.

ANDREW PITCAIRN'S LIFE—*continued*.

ANDREW PITCAIRN was now Master Falconer to the King, and in consequence his allowance was transferred from the Household expenses to the Exchequer. He had formerly been paid as one of the Gentlemen of the Bed-chamber and Gentleman Usher.

The note in the State Papers is as follows:—

In 1627, January 10, Sec. Conway wrote to Attorney-General Heath, to prepare a Bill for transferring the paying of Mr Pitcairn's allowances from the Household to the Exchequer.<sup>1</sup>

On Feb. 29th there was a grant made to Andro Pitcairn at Westminster, of Denization. It is in Latin, and he is described as Andro Pitcairn, one of the Grooms of the Bed-chamber, and Master Falconer to the King. On April 9, Sec. Conway wrote to Mr Pitcairn from Whitehall, recommending to him a letter from Peter Van Brugg, and to present it to his Majesty for signature.

On March 3, 1628, Sec. Conway writes from Newmarket to James, Earl of Carlisle, saying that after his departure came a packet directed to his lordship from the Lord Treasurer. His Majesty opened the same, and signed the warrant for Lord Carlisle's use which was enclosed. They are now all sent to him sealed by Mr Pitcairn.

On March 8, at Westminster, in the same year, there was a grant in fee firme given by the King to Andro Pitcairn, one of the Grooms of the Bed-chamber, of a house in Thetford, Norfolk, at the yearly rent of 10s. The grant was in Latin (the rent was left blank in it, in order that the same might be inserted by the King).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Car. I., 1627-28.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. vi. No. 28.

On March 12, 1628, Andro Pitcairn was at Theobalds, for he wrote from there to Sec. Conway, asking for a pass for John Danker and Walter Danker, who were employed by him to bring over hawks for his Majesty.

On July 22, at Westminster, the King ordered a warrant to pay to Andro Pitcairn, groom of the Bed-chamber, £2000 as the King's gift.<sup>1</sup>

On March 22 the following year, Sir Roger Thornton wrote from Snailwell to Mr Pitcairn, Master of the King's Hawks, informing him "that Coston, who dwells in his Majesty's Duck House in Kennet nr. Newmarket, says that the late King gave him his dwelling there during his life, and that he will not be removed, except he be torn in pieces. If it were true, it is upon his good behaviour and care of the game, but he takes a contrary course, and suggests the obtaining of his Majesty's command to the Constables of Kennet to remove him."

In the Calendar of the State Papers, 1629-1631, written in the time of Charles I., there are the following entries: 1630, April 14, Letter from Andrew Pitcairn to Secretary Dorchester:—

"Andrew Pitcairn, Master of the Hawks [to Sec. Dorchester], Begs him to acquaint the Council that the King had commanded the writer to complain to them when the commission for hawks' meat was not obeyed. Lately sent warrants into Herts to that purpose, whereof he had no other return but that the gentlemen of the county—namely, Sir Richard Lucy, Sir Robert Chester, and Sir Thomas Dacres—intreated forbearance until the Sessions. He consented thereto, and was put to hard shifts for food for the King's hawks, then at Theobalds."

After consultation the answer is, that they conceive it not due, and that they are willing to be called to the Council Board to answer it.

Below is another letter from Andrew Pitcairn to Conway:—

August 12th, at South Hampton.

Andrew Pitcairn, Master Falconer to the King, to Lord President Conway. When Captain Penn gets his despatch the King

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<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Car. I., No. 43.

wishes Lord Conway to insert words for some Barbary falcons. Captain Penn brought him a cast for trial, promising more if his Majesty liked them.

In 1630 there was a note of an arrear of rent due to the King from land in the parish of Sedgeley, Co. Stafford, belonging to a recusant convict,<sup>1</sup> and granted by the late King to Sir Ferdinando Dudley, son and heir to Lord Dudley. (This note was prepared as instructions for a request to be made to the King for the grant of this arrear.) It is indorsed Mr Pitcairn. Then in 1632 there is a petition of Henry Gibb to the King. By favour of his Majesty's father, petitioner made purchase of certain lands in the bishopric of Durham, which for many years<sup>2</sup> he quietly enjoyed, till of late Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Mr Pitcairn have sought to entitle his Majesty to a parcel thereof, called "Jarrow Slick," and are about to obtain a grant thereof for themselves. Prays that now, in his latter days, he may peacefully enjoy the estate which he obtained from the Royal bounty.

In 1633, at Westminster, on March 14, the King gave to Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Andrew Pitcairn a grant of all sums of money, part of the revenue arising from recusants which remained unpaid, over, or not accounted for, in the hands of any Commissioners, Sheriffs, or other persons.

The estate of Forthar carried with it the honourable distinction and the hereditary office of Master Falconers to the King, with right of a sleeping chamber at the Palace.

David, eldest son of Henry Pitcairn of Forthar in 1634, sold his right to this office to his brother Andrew, for various obligations, and gave him a bond of an annual rent of £840 out of Forthar—a very large sum in those days.

The following is the charter:—

Apud Edinburgam, 26 July, Rex cum consensu (13. 1) confirmavit cartam Davidis Pitcairne de eodem qua pro perimptione obligationis de data, apud Edinburgam, 10 June 1634—Vendidit

*M. Andree Pitcairne*

uni cubiculi dormitori regis ac magistro falconario regis heredibus

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of State Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



ejus et assignatis quibuscunque que sub reversione—annuum redditum 840 lib. de terris et baronia de Forthar ac terris de Pitcairne, cum turris vic. de Fyiff.

Tenend. a dicto David de superioribus suis Reddend annuum de albe firme, cum precepto sasine directo Michaeli Thomesoun servitori dicta David.

Test. : Joanne Nicoll, Notario Publico.

Jacobi Ramsey, Servitore.

Jacobi Campbell, Scribe.

Signeto regis (scriptore carta).

Apud Forthar, 23 Jul. 1634.

From the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland.  
At Edinburgh, 22 Jan. 1426.<sup>1</sup>

#### Translation of charter :—

In 1634 on the 10th July, at Edinburgh, with the consent of the King, a charter was confirmed of David Pitcairn of that Ilk, who for great obligations of that date at Edinburgh sold Mr *Andree Pitcarne* of the King's Bed-chamber, and Master Falconer to the King, his hereditary right to one sleeping chamber of the King's and the office of Chief Falconer to the King, for his heirs and assigns whoever they be, with reversion of the annual rent of £840<sup>2</sup> out of the lands and Barony of Forthar, and lands of Pitcairn, with towers, in Fife. Held of the said David, Lord of the Manor, with the order of the sasine direct from Michael Thompson, servitor of the said David. Witnesses, John Nicoll, Notary Public, James Ramsay, Servitor, James Campbell, scribe, with the King's seal and the Charter in writing, at Forthar, 23rd July 1634.

It was this James Ramsay who was a cousin of David Pitcairn. The coat of arms of Alexander Ramsay,<sup>3</sup> an eagle displayed, with foliage at the top and sides of the shield, and S. Alexander Ramsay on the seal, was appended to a precept of sasine in 1593 for the said James Ramsay.

It is evident from this old charter that the Pitcairns had the hereditary right to a bed-chamber of the King's, and also to be Master Falconer to the King. Although David

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., A.D. 1634.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. liv. No. 308.

<sup>3</sup> Laing's Cat. of Seals, Plate 7, Sig. 10.

of that Ilk sold his right to his brother Andrew, yet in the end, Charles, Andrew's son, having no children, the office reverted to the Pitcairns of Forthar.

In 1634, July 26, there was a confirmation by the King of a charter by David Pitcairne of that Ilk, to Mr Andrew Pitcairne, of the King's Bed-chamber and Master Falconer to the King, of an annual rent of £840 from the lands and Barony of Forther, and lands of Pitcairne, with towers, &c. Dated at Forther, 23rd July 1634.<sup>1</sup>

In 1634-35 a petition was drawn up by Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Andrew Pitcairn, as follows :<sup>2</sup>—

Petition of Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Andrew Pitcairn, his Majesty's servants, to the King. Nothing is paid to the King for coals burned in salt-pans, which may be well rated at 12d. the chaldron. We pray that the said 12d. per chaldron may be granted to petitioners for a term of years, and at a rent not stated.

As Andrew Pitcairn and Sir Arthur Mainwaring were appointed by the King to manufacture gunpowder, it may be of interest to describe the rise of the manufacture, the Government monopoly, and the various complaints to the Government, of the action of the saltpetre men who had to collect it. England was divided into different districts, and men were appointed to each, and there were many grievances, no doubt. It was intolerable that men could enter your property, undermine the walls in some instances, dig and destroy the place, and there was no redress, or it was difficult to obtain it, each side asserting, strongly, they were in the right.

The account of the getting saltpetre in the Calendars of the Domestic Series of the time of Charles I. gives a vivid and interesting picture of what went on in the times of our ancestors,—“the good old times!” as they are called.

Although gunpowder was first used in England in 1327,

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. liv. No. 308.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Car. I., 1634-35.

in the reign of Edward III., it was not until the time of Elizabeth that the manufacture of gunpowder can be said to have been established.

Saltpetre now began to be artificially produced in England; but the quantity so obtained formed a very small proportion of the supply needed, the remainder being brought from various parts of the Continent, and from Barbary. In 1623, nominally in order to prevent the sale of weak or defective powder, a proclamation was issued by James I., prohibiting its manufacture, as well as that of saltpetre, except under the King's Commission, and directing that all gunpowder should be proved and marked by the sworn proof-master. A little later, in 1626, the East India Company imported saltpetre, and also erected powder-works in Surrey. Their renewed Charter in 1693 contained a clause providing that 500 tons of saltpetre were to be furnished to the Ordnance annually, and from this time forward we hear of no difficulty, at least in England, in obtaining the chief ingredient of gunpowder.

"Powder-mills<sup>1</sup> existed at Waltham Abbey so far back as 1561; for in that year we find John Thomworth of Waltham in treaty, on behalf of Queen Elizabeth, for the purchase of saltpetre, sulphur, and staves for barrels. Fuller also refers to the powder-mills at Waltham Abbey, of which place he was appointed vicar in 1641. In 1787 they were sold to the Crown by John Walton, and reorganised under the superintendence of the famous Sir William Congreve. The old Royal factory at Faversham was given up after the peace of 1815, being first let and afterwards sold to the well-known firm of Messrs John Hall & Son; a third Government factory at Ballincollig was disposed of a few years later. The Waltham Abbey works have been greatly enlarged of recent years, and no expense has been spared to render them, by the introduction of new and improved machinery, the most complete as well as the safest in the world.

"The ingredients of gunpowder are the same as they were

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by Mr Brown, Hills Hay, Eastleigh.

then—namely, nitrate of potash (*i.e.*, saltpetre), sulphur, and charcoal.”

*April* 16, 1635. Notes by Sec. Windebank, made at a Meeting of the Commissioners for Trade, his Majesty [King Charles I.] being present. Lord Cottington reported the business of powder. His Majesty told the Commissioners that Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Pitcairn will serve powder within half a year at 8d. per pound.

The Earl of Newport and Sir John Heydon offer to make it, with a stock, at 7d. the pound. “Six, one and one,” is six parts of saltpetre, one of coal, and one of brimstone. If upon his Majesty’s stock of £4000, the Earl of Newport and Sir John Heydon will serve it for 7d.; if upon their own stock, they will serve it for 8d. Evelyn to furnish powder at 8d. for six months after the contract ended—16 lasts the month.<sup>1</sup>

*June* 6, 1635. Propositions of Sir Arthur Mainwaring and Andrew Pitcairn, touching the manufacture of gunpowder:—

They were willing to contract to supply 240 lasts of gunpowder yearly, if a sufficient quantity of saltpetre be delivered to them. They are to be paid 8d. a pound for the gunpowder, and will pay £3, 3s. 4d. for every 112 lb. of saltpetre. His Majesty having present occasion for 40 lasts of saltpetre to be converted into gunpowder, over and above the contracted proportion of 240 lasts per annum, the proposers engage that within fourteen days they will work upon the saltpetre with their three mills, and make six lasts monthly, and complete the 40 lasts by the end of October.<sup>2</sup>

Another petition was noted in 1636-37, which is as follows:—

*Petition of Andrew Pitcairn to the King.*<sup>3</sup>

The retail Chandlers of London take gunpowder out of His Majesty’s magazine 12d. the pound and resell it at divers immoderate rates, ranging from 15d. to 20d. per pound, which is not only a burthen to the commons, but encourages merchants to bring in inferior powder and to forestall the King’s sale. Suggests that some one person be appointed to receive out of the royal magazine such powder as may be spared, and to furnish the people

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Charles I., 1635.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Charles I.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Charles I., 1636.



in London at the rate of 13d. the barrel, and 14d. by less quantities, and in the remotest parts at 15d. and 16d.; by which means all petty powder-makers may be suppressed, and the importation of foreign saltpetre and bad powder be prevented. Prays a grant to enable Petitioner to carry out this arrangement.

1637, *Oct.* 4. Petition of George Kirke and Andrew Pitcairn, His Majesty's servants, to the King. Petitioners have discovered several gross abuses in goldsmiths, by vending goldsmiths' ware, both gold and silver, most wrongfully alloyed, whereof they have proofs lately taken by an assayer in the Tower; and also counterfeit stones are daily sold, contrary to the late proclamation.

Pray order for preventing the same, and in regard petitioners have not only discovered these abuses, but at their great charge have bought parcels of gold and silver and brought them to the assayer, their suit is that your Majesty would give them seven parts of twelve of all fines, and prohibit all others for two years to intermeddle with the same.<sup>1</sup>

#### Underwritten—

Minute that His Majesty grants these his ancient servants, for their pains in discovering the abuses of goldsmiths, seven parts of twelve of all profits that shall arise to him, and refers it to the Attorney-General to take order accordingly.

*Note.*—George Kirke mentioned here was one of the Grooms of the Bedchamber.

*Nov.* 8. The same to Montjoy, Earl of Newport. We have received information that His Majesty's gunpowder, as soon as it is brought into the Tower, is put into a dark room under the King's magazine of powder, and there stands, before it be proved, with the heads of the barrels open, where the cooper cannot see how to make up the barrels without candle, and that it is easy for any ill-affected or careless person to fire it. We pray you to take present order that such gunpowder as is brought in may be put either into the long room which is by the Earl of Northumberland's Walk in the Tower, as formerly it used to be, or in some other safe place.<sup>2</sup>

Andrew Pitcairn and Sir Arthur Mainwaring were fully alive to the great danger to the Tower by the culpable negligence of placing very inflammable material in such a

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Charles I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

place without due safeguards. It seems almost incredible nowadays that such a state of things could happen.

*Feb.* 20, 1635-36. Petition of Francis Vincent, deputy Saltpetre-maker to the Commissioners for Saltpetre and Gunpowder. Petitioner being authorised by letters patent to use his best endeavours to find out and provide saltpetre, employed James Crofts and Richard Vane to dig in the dove-house of Richard Steed, at Beaks-bourne, Kent, where James Wilford was charged to attend with his cart, but he being discontented therewith, and malignantly disposed to His Majesty's service, fell upon petitioner's servants without provocation, beating them with his cudgel, and then locked them in the stocks, carrying away the key in his pocket, saying that the King employed more rogues in his works than any man, by which means His Majesty's service has been ever since neglected. Prays that Wilford may be sent for to answer his contempt before the Lords, and make satisfaction for the wrong sustained by petitioner and his servants.<sup>1</sup>

This is the last entry about the gunpowder, and there is only one more mention of Andrew Pitcairn at Court, when a grant was made to him, "Grant of office of Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, to Sir John Mainwearing and Andrew Pitcairn in reversion, after John Mills and Richard Berringer the present patentees."<sup>2</sup>

Pitcairn died in 1642, and in the returns for the County of Fife, on April 13 of that year, his son Charles Pitcairn was served heir of Master Andrew Pitcairn, his father, to one sleeping chamber belonging to the King, with the sanction of our Lord the King, as His Majesty's Chief Falconer, in the annual rent of £840 of the lands and Barony of Forthar and of the lands of Pitcairn.<sup>3</sup>

Another entry says in almost the same words:—

1642, *April* 13. Charles Pitcairne, heir of Mr Andrew Pitcairne, one of the grooms of the Bed-chamber of the King, and his Majesty's Master Falconer, his father, in an annual rent of £840 of the lands and barony of Forthar, and of the lands of Pitcairne.

Andrew Pitcairn had one daughter, Janet, who was served heir to her father, Sept. 13, 1642. She married David

<sup>1</sup> Calendar of Domestic State Papers, Charles I.

<sup>2</sup> Calendar of State Papers, 1635-36, Car. I., March 28.

<sup>3</sup> Index of Retours for the County of Fife, vol. xvi., fol. 197.

Lindsay, elder, of Kirk Forthar. They had a child, Margaret, and on the 13th Feb. 1661 Sasine was given in virtue

of a marriage - contract between William Corstorphine of Kings Barns on the one part, and David Lindsay, elder, of Kirk Forthar, and *Jean Pitcairn* his spouse, for Margaret Lindsay their daughter, on the other part, for the marriage of the said William and Margaret, infesting her in parts of the lands of Kings Barns. Dated 13th Feb. 1661.

David Lindsay the younger is a witness.<sup>1</sup>

The Pitcairn and Lindsay arms with initials are still to be seen in the ruinous chapel at Kirk Forthar.

<sup>1</sup> Index of Retours for the County of Fife.

## CHAPTER XV.

DAVID PITCAIRN, SIXTEENTH LAIRD OF PITCAIRN  
AND FORTHAR.

DAVID, sixteenth lord of Forthar and Pitcairne, succeeded his father Henry of that Ilk. He seems to have been rather noisy when he was a youth, because the Principal of New College, St Andrews, in 1587, complains of several of the young students making a riot, and David Pitcairn's name was mentioned as being one of the ringleaders. He was in the army, for in November of 1621 there is a letter of Thomas Murray to Carleton, recommending "Lieut. David Pitcairn, who is a favourite with the Prince (Charles)."

"In 1627 there was a caution by David Pitcairn, fiar of that Ilk, in 500 merks for Captain Robert Leslie, that neither he nor any one having charge under him should transport Edward Clarke, son of the Laird of Balbirnie, forth of the kingdom, &c., signed D. Pitcairn, fiar of that Ilk," so that Henry Pitcairne must have died the year before—in 1626.

In 1613 there is a charter granted to David, which says:—

Ane Charter grantit to David Pitcarne be Sunews Daniels dochter of j merk in South Dail, j merk land in Brasetter, daittit 22 January 1613.

Also in 1621 is another charter as follows:—

Ane Charter grantit be Thomas Aichly to David Pitcarne of 1 j merks land in Utrabister, daittit last November.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Privy Council, 1621.



David Pitcairn had married, on Jan. 6, 1611, Marion Menteith. The charter says:—

Charter of Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk, and David Pitcairn his eldest son, in terms of marriage-contract between the said David Pitcairn with his father's consent on the one part, and Mariota Menteith, daughter of Sir William Menteith of Kerse, Knight, with consent of the latter on the other part, of date Dec. 11, 1610, infesting the said Mariota as future spouse of David Pitcairn in life rent, in the mill and mill lands of Freuchy, in the lordship and Stewartry of Fife. Robert Pitcairn of Dounfield (Henry's brother) was a witness.<sup>1</sup>

The King's charter regranting Henry Pitcairn, his son David, and his wife, Mariota Menteith, and their heirs, the Barony of Forthar, the Barony of Downfield, Freuchy, &c., will be found in chap. xii., in the life of Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk.

David's wife, Mariota Menteith, was descended from one of the oldest Scottish families. Her father, Sir William Menteith, and her mother, Lady Isabella Hamilton, suffered great persecution for the cause of their religion, and her father was the last of the elder line.

The name of Menteith<sup>2</sup> is local—a considerable district in Scotland through which the river Teith runs being called the Stewartry of Menteith (compounded of *mene*, vale or district, and *Teith* or *Teth*). Walter (third son of Walter, third High Steward of Scotland) married, in 1258, the Countess of Menteth, and thus acquired that earldom. His name occurs frequently in the transactions of the thirteenth century, and we find him gallantly distinguished at the battle of Largs in 1263, when his brother, the High Steward, had the chief command. He calls himself on his seal "Walterus, Senescallus et Comes de Menetet." The earl left two sons, who both assumed the surname of Menteth—viz.:

Alexander.

John (Sir), Governor of Dumbarton Castle, who took an active part in the political convulsions of his time.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlvi. No. 334.

<sup>2</sup> Burke's Peerage, 1869.

The elder son, Alexander Menteth, sixth Earl of Menteth, one of the boldest defenders of Scottish independence against King Edward I., had two sons—

I. Allan, seventh Earl of Menteth, living in 1296, whose daughter and heir, Mary, Countess of Menteth, married Sir John Graham (executed in 1346), and had a daughter, Margaret, who married Robert Stewart, Duke of Albany, and was mother of Murdock, Duke of Albany, who was attainted in 1405.

II. John, of whose line we have to treat. The second son, Sir John Menteth, Knt. of Ruskey, died before 1333, leaving three sons—viz.:

Walter, his heir.

John (Sir, Knt.), of Strathgartney.

Alexander (Sir, Knt.).

The eldest son, Sir Walter Menteth of Ruskey, was slain by the Drummonds in one of those family feuds so frequent in Scottish history. He had two sons—

Alexander, of Ruskey.

John, the second son.

Sir John Menteth, living in the reign of David II., from whom he obtained a grant of the sheriffship of Clackmannan, married Marion, daughter and heir to Sir John Stirling of Calder, by whom he acquired the barony of West Kerse and Alva, and had a son and successor—

Sir William Menteth of West Kerse, living in 1426, who married Elizabeth, daughter of James Graham, afterwards Marquess of Montrose, and was succeeded by his son—

Sir John Menteth of West Kerse, who married Helen, daughter of Lord Livingstone, Viceroy of Scotland during the minority of James II., and had a son and successor, Sir John Menteth of West Kerse, who married Janet, daughter of Lord Crichton, Chancellor of Scotland, and was father of

Sir William Menteth of West Kerse, who married Agnes, daughter of Alexander, Lord Erskine, ancestor of the Earls of Mar, and was succeeded by his son, Sir William Menteth of West Kerse in Stirlingshire, and of Alva in Clackmannan—

shire, of which county he was hereditary sheriff. He married Helen Bruce, daughter of the Laird of Airth, and had two sons.

William (Sir, Knt.), of West Kerse, who continued the senior line, of which the last male heir, Sir William Menteth, sold or resigned Kerse, in 1631, to Sir William Livingstone, Lord Kilsyth.

He and his wife, Lady Isabella Hamilton, were staunch Catholics, and evidently suffered great persecution. They were excommunicated, no doubt fined as recusants, and in the end they were hopelessly embarrassed; the estate of Kerse was resigned, and given by James VI. to Sir William Livingstone, Lord Kilsyth.

In the Register of the proceedings of the Scottish Privy Council<sup>1</sup> we find recorded, on 10th of March 1629, the receipt of a letter from the King, "concerning the Laird of Kerse and his ladie," and the resolution of "the Lords" to delay for a week or more the answering of the letter; but the Council "in the mean tyme ordanes the Bishop of Dunblane, who wes present, to adverteis the Bishop of S<sup>t</sup> Andrewes to be heir upon this day aught dayes, and to write to the presbytrie of . . . not to proceed to the sentence of excommunication against thame induring that tyme."

Then on the 19th March comes another letter from the King, dated 15th January 1629:—

LETTER OF KING JAMES VI. TO THE COUNCIL ABOUT  
SIR WILLIAM MENTEITH.

JAMES REX.—Whereas we have been petitioned by Sir William Menteith of Kerse, knyht, and his ladie, humblie showing that being engadged to divers their creditors in sindrie sowmes of money, they cannot convenientlie give that satisfaction quhilk they are willing, unlesse we be pleased to grant unto them a competent tyme free from the rigour of the executioners of our lawes for performance thereof, intending within the said space to take a course for giving of satisfioun to their creditours, which goodlie we could not have refused unto them, if the Bishop of Ross, com-

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<sup>1</sup> Communicated by Mr D. Beveridge.

missioner from the Church, had not informed us of their disconformitie from the treu religion presentlie profest within that our kingdom, for whilk the Church has them presentlie under process : quhairfor least uthers of that professioun under the like pretexts sould importune us, we have refused to grant their said petitioun, unless they sall compeir before you, and give sufficient assurance that within the space of sax months they sall conforme themselves to the treu religioun, otherwise that they sall remove themselves out of that our kingdome, and that during that space they sall behave themselves in such sort as they sall doe nothing contrarie unto our lawes, nor give no caus of open scandal, nor no other offence to our Church and countrie, and in the meantyme that they use such lawfull ordinarie means for their instruction and reclayming as the Church shall think fitte to prescrive ; but if they sall compeir before you and find sufficient suretie to the effect foresaid, and that they take a reasonable course for payment of the debts awand by them to their creditours within the said space, that our pleasure is that during the said tyme of sax months, and of thair good cariage therein in maner foresaid, the rigour of our lawes in anie maner be not execute against thame ; and so we bid you fareweill.

15th *January* 1629.

Then on 24th March 1629 the Council indites the following letter to his Majesty :—

Most sacred soverane, As we have ever found during the whole course of your Majestie's government most cleere and undenyable proofs of the sinceritie of your Majestie's pious disposition towards the maintenance of the treu religion (for the which we praise God) so we acknowledge our selfes obliged in dewtie to express our thankfulness for your Majestie's lait princelie regaird in forbearing to grant unto the Laird of Kerse and his ladie ane protectioun from the lawes till they sould first give assurance to your Councill heir for satisfeing the Church in maner and upon the conditions preseryved in your Majestie's letter direct to us in thair behalffe. Upon the recept quhairof we wrote for the Archbishop of S<sup>t</sup> Andrewes, and demandit him and the minister of Falkirk thair ordinar pastour touching thair bypast lyffe, and the Churches proceedour aganes them, who declaired in the presence and hearing of the Laird of Kerse, that he and his ladie being profest papists and exemplarie scandalous in the bounds where they dwelt, they were thereupon brought to their answeire before the presbyterie who proceeded with that gentleness and moderatioun aganes thame that after three years' forbearance, during which tyme they travelled by



some of thair brethren for thair instruction and reclayming, having found thame to be so preoccupied with prejudicat opinions, and so contumaciously repugnant to the ordours of the Churche that nather they could be wrought to embrace the truth nor to live in quyet without offence, they were in end constrayned to go on with the censures of the Church aganes thame, and after many publict admonitiouns and prayers made for their conversion, as use is (all which they slighted and contemned), the Archbishop gave warrant to pronounce the sentence of excommunicatioun aganes them according to your Majestie's pleasure signified unto him concerning papists, quhairof he affirmed he had receaved no discharge in favour of thir parteis. By which report finding thame to be alreadie processed, and ordour given for sentencing thame upon Sunday next we could not in reason vouchsafe thame anie favour or protection from the lawes without a manifest prejudice to the estait of religioun, the conservatioun quhairof is your Majestie's chiefest care, and which we ar assured will preponder with your Majestie oll by respects quatsomever.

We cannot omitt to represent unto your Majestie the seene prejudice flowing from the grant of protectionis which are both contrarie to the law, and irparablie hurtful to your good subjects who having out of thair affectioun entrusted thair estait to thair bankrupt creditours ar by the means defrauded of that legall remeid quhilk the course of justice would afford them for recoverie of thir goods, quhairby many honest famileis have been brought to ruyne; for obviating of which inconveniences in tyme coming we will humblie supplicat your Majestie that your Majestie would be graciouslie pleased not to grant anie exemptioun from the law upon the importunitie of suters who how ever they may spuriuslie pretend thair intentioun to paye thair debts doe meane nothing ellis bot ane imunitie to thair persouns in defraud of their creditours, and for thus doing your Majestie will oblige all your good and faithfull subjects to concurre with us in their most fervent prayers unto God for your Majestie's long and happie raigne. Halyroudhous, 24 Martis 1629—*Subscibitur*—Mar, Haddintoun, Wintoun, Seafort, Lauderdaill, Air, Lorne, Areskine, Melvill, Dumblane, Traquair, Hamiltoun, Scotstarvet, James Baillie.

The outcome of the whole matter is thus recorded in a subsequent Minute of Council, delivered at Holyrood House in the same year (1629), the tenor of which is as follows:—

Complaint by the moderator and brethren of the presbytery of Linlithgow—In pursuance of the Act of the Parliament held at Edinburgh in June 1594 they had cited Sir William Monteith of

West Kerse, knyht, Alexander Hamiltoun of Middlerig, and Christian Pollock his spouse, for being suspected Papists, refusing to repair to the kirk, hear the word, and communicate, and having failed after long pains and travels to convert them, they had been compelled to proceed against them with kirk censures. Accordingly on . . . March last, being Sunday, these three persons were duly excommunicated in the kirk of Fawkirk by Mr Thomas Spittell, minister there, notwithstanding whereof they still go about as free lieges. Charge having been given to these three persons, and the pursuers compearing by the said Mr Thomas Spittell, but the defenders not compearing, the Lords ordain them to be denounced and escheat.

There is no further mention in the Privy Council records of Sir William Menteith or his wife. In vol. v. p. 261 of the 'Herald and Genealogist,' edited by J. G. Nichols, 1870, there is a paper entitled "Doubtful Pedigrees," signed "Anglo-Scotus," which gives a long general account of the Menteith family, but says nothing about the Sir William Menteith above mentioned, except that he, as the last male of the line, sold Kerse in 1631 to Sir William Livingstone, Lord Kilsyth. This he had probably been compelled to do to pay the debts for which, as we have seen, he had presented a petition to King Charles to grant him a protection against the unpleasant consequences ensuing, and which it is probable he would have obtained, had not he and his wife, Lady Isabelle, clung so pertinaciously to the Roman Catholic faith. The following extract from a charter of Novodamus, given under the Great Seal to the Livingstones, seems to confirm this:—

Apud Halyruidhous, 30 July [1631].—*REX* concessit et de novo dedit Willelmo Levingstoun de Kilsyth in vitali redditu et Willelmo Levingstoun ejus filio et heredi apparenti . . . terras et baroniam de West Kerse . . . quas D. Wil. Menteith miles cum consensu Dominæ Isabelle Hamiltoun sponsæ suæ et Claudii M. ipsonem filii nati maximi et heredis apparentis et curatorum dicti Claudii resignavit, &c., &c.

At Holyrood House, 30th July 1631. The King has granted anew to William Livingston of Kilsyth and to William Livingston, his son and heir apparent . . . the lands and barony of West Kerse . . . which Sir William Menteith, knyht, with consent of

Lady Isabelle Hamilton, his spouse, and Master Claud, their eldest son and heir apparent, and the curators [guardians] of the said Claud, hath resigned.

David Pitcairn's eldest son and heir, William, married Anna, daughter of Sir David Creichtoun of Lugton, and the following charter is recorded in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland :—

Apud Edinburgum, 11 Nov. 1644.—*REX*, cum consensu, &c. (41. 28), confirmavit cartam Davidis Pitcairn de eodem—qua pro perempletione contractus matrimonialis de data apud Gilmortoun 15 April 1638 concessit Willelmo Pitcairne, filio suo legitimo, terras et baroniam de Forthare (viz., terras et terras dominicales de Forthare, cum turre, maneriei loco, molendino ter, de Dounefield, cum maneriei loco, cum tenentibus, &c., molendinum de Freuchie—mylne, cum ejus terris, &c.), vic. Fyfe—Reservato dicto Wil. et hæredibus masc. procreandis inter eum et Annam Creichtoun ejus sponsam affuturam, filiam legitimam primogenitam Domini Davidis Creichtoun de Lugtoun milites, quibus deficientibus heredibus masc. dicti Wil. de corpore procreandis, quibus defi. dicti Davidi Pitcairne revirsuras de rege.<sup>1</sup>

*Translation of the above.*

At Edinburgh, 11 Nov. 1644. The King, with consent, &c., has confirmed the Deed of David Pitcairn of that Ilk by which in fulfilment of the marriage-contract dated at Gilmertoun, 15 April 1638, he granted to William Pitcairn, his lawful son, the lands and barony of Forthare (viz., the lands and dominical lands of Forthare, with the tower, manor place, the mill-lands of Dounefield, with the manor place, tenements, &c., the mill of Freuchie-mylne with its lands, &c.) in the county of Fyfe. *RESERVING* to the said William and his heirs-male to be born between him and Anne Creichtoun, who is shortly to become his wife, lawful eldest daughter of Sir David Creichtoun of Lugtoun militis, whom failing, to the heirs-male to be born of the body of the said William, whom failing, to the said David Pitcairne and his heirs male whomsoever, whom all failing, to return to the King.

In another Latin charter under the Great Seal, dated at Edinburgh, 10th March 1645, the King ratifies a conveyance by David and William Pitcairn in liferent of certain lands belonging to the barony of Forthare to the said Anne Creichtoun in full satisfaction

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. No. 417.

of her right of terce in the same. This latter conveyance appears to be a companion one to the former, but in the present royal charter Anne is styled "*postea sponsa dicti Wil.*" ("afterwards wife of the said William.")

Alexander, David Pitcairn's younger son, became Dean of Orkney. The following extract gives a short account of him:—

"In October (1665) we have the first mention of a name which will subsequently frequently be met with. It is that of Mr Alexander Pitcarne, who was then ordered to undergo 'tryalls,' he having obtained a presentation from the Bishop for Sandwick and Stromness. In the autumn the Bishop seems to have gone south, and had then obtained the promise of Mr Pitcarne's services. A graduate of the University of St Andrews, he appears to have belonged to that district, and, from his seal, related to the old family of Pitcairn of that Ilk, which carried—'2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle with wings displayed sable, for Ramsay,' in addition to 'quarterly 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges' (Nisbet's *Heraldry*, i. 215). His wife, Elizabeth Sinclair, was the eldest lawful daughter of John Alexander, Dean of Guild of St Andrews in Fife, and through her he succeeded to some landed estate in that county. At least he was well known to the Bishop. He was soon appointed Dean, and proved himself worthy of the Bishop's patronage."<sup>1</sup>

A double-headed eagle (part of the Forthar arms), Pitcairn's seal, was affixed to a letter written by him to the Rev. James Douglas.

Although Bishop Bruce never came to Orkney, he appointed the Rev. A. Pitcairn, Dean—a fact which Mr John Wilson, the remaining Episcopal clergyman in the Cathedral of St Magnus, informed the magistrates and kirk-session of, on 17th June 1689.

In 1650, William Pitcairn of Forthar sold to his uncle, John Pitcairn of Unstoun, the old estate of Pitcairn, which had been held by the Pitcairns of that Ilk for more than four hundred years.

<sup>1</sup> From *A History of the Church in Orkney*, by Rev. J. B. Craven.



## CHAPTER XVI.

WILLIAM PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, SEVENTEENTH LAIRD OF  
PITCAIRN AND THE BARONY OF FORTHAR.

WILLIAM PITCAIRN, seventeenth lord of Pitcairn and Forthar, eldest son of David Pitcairn of that Ilk, succeeded to the estate of Forthar.

On Jan. 2, 1655, he was served heir to his father, David Pitcairn of that Ilk, in an annual rent of 500 merks forth of the Lands of Kincappill in the regality of St Andrews, equivalent to the yearly tax duty of 500 merks of the Teynds of the said lands of Kincappill, dispoised by the said David Pitcairn to Sir John Spottiswood, sometime of Dairsey, Knight.<sup>1</sup>

David Pitcairn, the father of William, died before Nov. 29, 1653; his son was served in a retour of inquest held in the Tolbooth of Cupar at that date, as nearest and lawful heir-general of his father, the late David Pitcairn of that Ilk.<sup>2</sup>

William Pitcairn married in 1638, Anna, eldest daughter of Sir David Creichton of Lugton, and had five sons—(1) Alexander, (2) John, (3) Henry, (4) William, (5) James—and one daughter, Marion.

In 1656, May the 20th, William Pitcairn of that Ilk had sasine following on precept in Bond, with consent of Anne Creichtoun his wife, in favour of Archibald Stirling residing in Stirling, of an annual rent of £297, 4s. Scots, from the baronies of Forthar and Ducktown, in the parishes of Kinglassie and Kettle in the Shire of Fife.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> From Indices of Retours for the County of Fife.

<sup>2</sup> Laing Charters, No. 507, box 15.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., No. 1333, box 35.

William Pitcairn died *ante* 1688, and was succeeded by his son, Alexander, of that Ilk. His second son, John,<sup>1</sup> was born Nov. 2, 1642, and was baptised before Mr Patrick Seaton of Lathrisk and David Lindsay of Kirkforthar. His third son, Henry, born Jan. 24, 1645, was also baptised before the same David Lindsay. His fourth son, William, born Jan. 22, 1647, was baptised before William Ballingall of Stigges and John Lintlater of Balgrigge. James Pitcairn, born Jan. 26, 1648, the fifth son of William Pitcairn of Forthar, was baptised before John Seaton, fiar of Lathrisk, and Mr George Heriot of Ramorny. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle, and was the ancestor of the Dysart Pitcairns. (See Dysart Branch.)

William Pitcairn's daughter Margaret underwent much persecution.

Wodrow, in his 'Hist. of the Church,' states:—

In 1677, upon the 7th of August, I find some ladies fined by the Council. Margaret Rigg, Lady Pitlochie, Margaret Pitcairn, wife of Alexander Hamilton, Lady Kinkel, are cited for alleged being at conventicles, and when not compearing they are held as confessing, and the Lady Kinkel fined in five thousand merks, and the other in a thousand, and letters are directed against them and their husbands.

On July 18, 1679,<sup>2</sup> the Council granted a commission to procure a forfeiture against Alexander Hamilton of Kinkel, Margaret Pitcairn's husband. I know not a more proper place to bring in an abstract of Kinkel's sufferings than here, when he is seized after Bothwell, from an attested narrative sent me by his worthy relations.

He underwent a continued tract of trouble, almost since the Restoration. When Presbyterian Ministers were forced from their charges, his house was a shelter to many of them in their wanderings. There they preached, and none were excluded who came to hear them.

This being almost under the primate's eye, it drew down his indignation upon Kinkel, who was cited to appear at his courts, but he declined. The bishop went the length to cause to cite him out of the pulpit, in order to excommunication. The people

<sup>1</sup> Registers of the Parish of Kettle, and Canon Pitcairn's papers.

<sup>2</sup> Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland. Book II. chap. xii. p. 361.

of St Andrews, when they heard a person of Kinkel's piety and character cited out of pulpit, merely for his conscientious nonconformity, to evidence their detestation of such methods, generally went out of the church. When the bishop saw his excommunication would be despised, he procured him to be inter-communed, which forced him to quit his house and endure innumerable hardships; and in a little time a garrison was sent to the house of Kinkel, who turned out his lady and family, when the Lady Kinkel was very near to be delivered, and scarce could she find a house that would receive her, her husband being denounced. The garrison continued in the house several weeks, and destroyed most of the plenishings, damaged the house, and ate up the provision in it.

Captain Carstairs had particular orders about Kinkel, and, after frequent searches for him, one day attacked him, and killed his horse under him. All this time his family were in great difficulties. After Bothwell, he was taken, and the soldiers were very rude to him, bound him with cords, and carried him to Edinburgh, where he continued in prison eighteen months. His family was then obliged to come and live in Edinburgh, where they were at vast charges, and a great deal of money was given to keep off what was almost daily threatened upon him, in order to draw money from them.

In 1679 A.D.<sup>1</sup> they still got more money to obtain some favour to him at London. Upon this he was liberated, upon condition that he should appear at the circuit, or when called upon under the pain of twenty thousand merks.

He was frequently called upon by his enemies to extort money from him, and had to give vast sums to the advocates and others. Thus though he escaped forfeiture, his estate was ruined.

At the liberty he came back to his house at Kinkel, after thirteen years' banishment from it, and set up a meeting-house.

This soon brought him new trouble, and by the then Primate Ross, a party of soldiers carried him to Edinburgh contrary to the King's declaration of liberty. In a little time he was liberated. Great were the hardships he underwent in this long course of sufferings, too long here to insert.

William Pitcairn of that Ilk had only one daughter, Margaret or Marion, as above mentioned. She was born 13th Dec. 1640, and was baptised before Patrick Seaton of Lathrisk and Walter Heriot of Ramorney, and married

<sup>1</sup> Wodrow's Hist. of Church of Scot., vol. iii. pp. 145, 146.

Alexander Hamilton of Kinkell. The Heriots of Ramorney, who were witnesses to the baptisms, were a very old Fife family, and so were the Seatons. David Lindsay of Kirkforthar, who is mentioned as being also a witness to the baptisms of William Pitcairn's children, was connected with him by marriage, as he had married William's cousin, Janet Pitcairn, daughter of his uncle Andrew. There had been two Lindsays of Kirkforthar before that time who had married Pitcairns; also Elizabeth or Isabelle, daughter of Henry Pitcairn of Forthar, in the fifteenth century had married Patrick, Lord Lindsay of the Byres. So there were many Pitcairn-Lindsay connections.



## CHAPTER XVII.

ALEXANDER PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, EIGHTEENTH IN  
SUCCESSION, AND LAIRD OF THE BARONY OF FORTHAR.

ALEXANDER PITCAIRN, eldest son of William Pitcairn of that Ilk, succeeded his father in Forthar. Their estate of Pitcairn was now lost to the chiefs of the House of Pitcairn, as it had been sold by William Pitcairn of that Ilk, in 1650, to John Pitcairn of Unstoun, his uncle.

1655. On August the 15th, Alexander of that Ilk had a precept for infefting James Stocks, and Agnes Robertson his wife, in an annual rent out of the lands of Forthar in the parish of Kingskettle, under a bond granted by William Pitcairn (then of that Ilk) dated 20th December 1650;<sup>1</sup> and at the same date Alexander infefted Isabel Robertson, daughter of the late James R. Robertson in Mongall, in certain annual rents out of the lands of Forthar.<sup>2</sup>

Alexander of that Ilk married, 1665, Margaret, eldest daughter of Sir Patrick Threipland, Baronet, of Fingask, and his wife Euphame, daughter of John Conqueror of Friarton.<sup>3</sup>

Alexander Pitcairn of Forthar died *ante* June 1722, for in the Falkland Registers it says, on that date Mrs Margaret Pitcairn, lawful daughter to the *deceast* Alexander Pitcairn of Forthar, and John Coll, Falkland, now in the Collidge Church paroch in Edinburgh, gave up their names for proclamation.

The nephew of Margaret Pitcairn (*née* Threipland) and grandson of Sir Patrick Threipland was Dr Stewart Threipland, who afterward became Sir Stewart Threipland, third

<sup>1</sup> Laing Charters, No. 1003, box 27.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 932, box 25.

<sup>3</sup> History of the Threipland Family, MS.

Baronet of Fingask. The estate of Fingask had been forfeited in the Jacobite rising of 1715, also the estate of Pitcairn. Sir Stuart bought back Fingask from the creditors of the York Building Company,<sup>1</sup> who had bought the forfeited estate in 1720, and a friend of the Pitcairn family bought back Pitcairn for them at the same time.

In the rising of 1745 Forthar was forfeited, and David Pitcairn of that Ilk<sup>2</sup> was made bankrupt, his estate was sold, bought on the 23rd Feb., and sealed the 6th of March 1756, by Sir Stuart Threipland, and in 1760 the business of certification, and binding the ground, was concluded on the 26th day of November of the same year.

Alexander Pitcairn was Dr Threipland's uncle by marriage, and David Pitcairn, his son, was therefore his cousin. Dr Threipland had most probably bought in the estate for the Pitcairn family, as we find on 1st October 1773 there was a "Disposition of the lands and Barony of Forthar by Dr Stewart Threipland in favor of Dr William Pitcairn, physician in London, dated the 2nd of August, and recorded in the books of Council and Session in October of that year, and seasine in the said lands and barony of Forthar following upon the precept of seasine, in said Charter, in favor of Dr William Pitcairn, was dated the 22nd of September, and recorded in the General Register of Sasines in Edinburgh the 6th of October 1775."<sup>3</sup>

Dr William Pitcairn here mentioned was second cousin to Rev. James Pitcairn of Forthar, his grandfather being James, fifth son of William Pitcairn of Forthar. (See Dysart Branch.)

Dr W. Pitcairn's nephew, Dr David Pitcairn, succeeded him in the estate; but it was sold in 1830 to the Balfours of Balbirnie, who still hold it.

<sup>1</sup> History of the Threipland Family, MS.

<sup>2</sup> Retours and Indices of the County of Fife.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., and Canon Pitcairn's MS.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

DAVID PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK, NINETEENTH LAIRD.

DAVID PITCAIRN, eldest son of William Pitcairn, succeeded his father in the Barony of Forthar. David married Agnes Douglas, daughter of Sir Robert Douglas of Ardit and Glenbervie. Her brother, Sir Robert Douglas, who wrote the 'Peerage,' and succeeded to the title as sixth baronet on the death of his half-brother Sir William, thus describes the family:—

From the original volume of Douglas's 'Baronage,' of which only one was ever published—the first—in 1798. It was revised and completed by Wood in 1813.

At p. 18—article "Douglas of Glenbervie," to which family the author belonged—

"Sir William Douglas, second son of Archibald, fifth Earl of Angus, was the first of the Douglasses of Glenbervie."

At p. 20—

"Robert Douglas of Ardit, who upon the death of his cousin, Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie, anno 1692, without issue male, succeeded to these titles as before observed, was fourth baronet of this family, and from thenceforth his lands of Ardit in Fife had the name of Glenbervie.

"Sir Robert married, 1st, Mary, eldest daughter of Sir William Ruthven of Dunglass, by Lady Catherine Douglas, his wife, daughter of William, Marquis of Douglas, by whom he had one son—Sir William, his heir.

"He married, 2ndly, Janet Paterson, Lady Dunmure, by whom he had four sons and three daughters.

“Of this second family the eldest daughter, Agnes, married David Pitcairn of that Ilk, of Forthar, to whom she hath a son James, a clergyman in England, who is married and hath issue.”

“The name of the first Marquis of Douglas (whose daughter, Lady Catherine Douglas, married Sir William Ruthven, father-in-law of the fourth baronet of Glenbervie), was William Douglas, and so was that of his son. The second William Douglas was a younger son of the first Marquis, was created Earl of Selkirk, and, after marrying Anne (Duchess of Hamilton in her own right, and daughter of the Duke who lost his head in Palace Yard under Cromwell’s *régime*), was made Duke of Hamilton for life. He died in 1694, and his son, who became, in right of his mother Anne, fourth Duke of Hamilton, was killed in 1712 in the duel with Lord Mohun.

“The husband of Duchess Anne, brother of Lady Catherine Douglas, was thus grand-uncle of Sir William Douglas, fifth baronet of Glenbervie, who was a half-brother of Agnes Douglas, wife of David Pitcairn of that Ilk, and mother of James Pitcairn, the clergyman.”

The fourth Duke of Hamilton was therefore his cousin.

At p. 21 of first edition of the ‘Baronage,’ Douglas states—

“Robert Douglas of Ardit, who upon the death of his cousin Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie, without issue male, succeeded to these titles as before observed, was fourth baronet of this family, and from thenceforth his lands of Ardit in Fife had the name of Glenbervie. . . . *Vide* title Pitcairn of that Ilk.”

*Note.*<sup>1</sup>—But this last had evidently belonged to vol. ii., which was never published. Wood only gives *in extenso* the *peerages* in Douglas’s work. He never takes up the commoners—at least, any references that he makes to them are merely casual.

Burke says in 1828 of the family of Glenbervie and Ardit:—

“If a long line of illustrious ancestors, distinguished by

<sup>1</sup> Note by Mr Beveridge.



the highest titles of honour, and connected with the most august houses in Europe, can add importance to a name, there is not one in the empire more dignified than that of Douglas. The family has been connected with the first nobles of Scotland, England, and France; it has intermarried no less than eleven times with the Royal houses of Scotland, and once with that of England. Sir William Douglas, knight of Glenbervie, obtained a charter from King James V., 1591, confirming all the ancient privileges of the family of Douglas—namely, the first vote in Council, or Parliament, to be the King's Hereditary lieutenant, to have the leading of the van of the army in the day of battle; and to carry the crown at coronations—to himself and his heirs-male. These were again confirmed by charter, 1602."

Sir William, the fifth baronet, half-brother of Agnes Pitcairn, was a lawyer of great eminence and learning, was chosen in 1726 Provost of the city of St Andrews, and was annually re-elected for nineteen years successively.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Douglas of Garvald, and died without children in July 1764, when his half-brother Sir Robert succeeded as sixth baronet. He was the eldest son, by the second marriage of Sir Robert and Lady Dunmure, and own brother of Agnes Douglas, who married David Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar. Sir Robert married three times. His second wife was Margaret, eldest daughter of Sir James Macdonald, Bart. of Macdonald, and was succeeded by his only son, Sir Alexander, a doctor of great eminence in Edinburgh, who founded the dispensary for the poor in 1781. Sir Alexander married, in 1775, Barbara, daughter of James Carnegie of Finhaven.

Sir Robert Douglas's 'Peerage' is even now considered one of the greatest authorities, and is much consulted by genealogists.

The following is a letter from Sir William Douglas to James Pitcairn of Cloon, his sister's only son, and heir of Forthar:—

LETTER OF SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS of Glenbervie, Baronet,  
to JAMES PITCAIRN of that Ilk and Forthar,  
Rector of Cloon, Ireland.

DEAR SIR,—I came here in the month of January with the Marquess of Lothian, and the Session of Parliament being now near at an end, we propose setting out for Scotland in a day or two. Our Church of Scotland is like to be disappointed of the benefit they expected by their application to Parliament, and I believe they now wish they had never attempted it; however they have had their will, and this will exercise their patience. The King came to the House yesterday, and passed the Regency Bill with about 50 others publick and private. The new tobacco Bill, though proposed by the Merchants of London, offends them by some stamps added, which they did not imagine would have been thought of, so they have caught a tartar. —Your Lord Lieut., who took the oaths yesterday, is to be with you soon.

I beg my compliments to Mrs Pittcairn and to Effie and Jean.—Dear Sir, Your affectionate uncle and most humble servant,

WILL. DOUGLAS.

LONDON, *22nd May 1751.*

David Pitcairn of Forthar had only one son, James, who succeeded him, born 3rd of Dec. 1715, and eight daughters—

(1) Jannet, born June 22, 1717.

(2) Margaret, born Sept. 15, 1719.

(3) Clementina, born Dec. 22, 1720.

(4) Cuysham, born July 28, 1722.

(5) Elizabeth Pitcairn, "lawful daughter of the above-designed David Pitcairn of that Ilk, was born in the twenty of June ye yeare twenty-three, and was baptized the twenty-ninth of the said month, 1723."

(6) Dorothea, "daughter to the said Laird of fforthar and Pitcairn of that Ilk, was born Sept. the 12th [1724] of

DAVID PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK. 185

ye yeare twenty and four, and baptized on the fifteenth of the said month and year."

(7) Marion, "lawful daughter to the above-named David Pitcairn of fforthar of that Ilk, was born April 18th [1726] ye yeare twenty and six, and was baptized on the twentieth day of the said month and aforesaid year."

(8) Agnes, "lawful daughter to David Pitcairn of that Ilk and fforthar, born 6th Jan. 1727."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From the Parish Registers of Kettle.

## CHAPTER XIX.

THE REV. JAMES PITCAIRN, TWENTIETH LAIRD.

THE Rev. James Pitcairn, LL.B., twentieth laird, and last owner of the Barony of Forthar in the *direct* line, was born in 1715. He was Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral, Rector of Compton Bassett and West Kington. The only son of David Pitcairn of Forthar, and Agnes Douglas his wife, he was educated at the Glasgow University and matriculated there: the entry says, "F. Davidis Pitcairn de Forthar in Comit. Fifense, matric. Alb. 1733."

He then went to Oxford, and matriculated at St Mary Hall, May 24, 1737, aged 22.

The following is the copy of the Register of Matriculations of the University of Oxford, 1737, Maii 24:—

Aul. B.W.V. JACOBUS PITCAIRN, 22.

David fil: Forthar Coun: Fife Reg. Scot., Ann. 1737. "A true extract, made by me, Sept. 23, 1864."

JOHN GRIFFITHS, M.A.

*Keeper of the Archives.*

His father, David, died two years after James left Oxford.

James then succeeded to the family estates, as the following retours show:—

In the Indices of the Retours (General Index, 28) James Pitcairn of Forthar is mentioned as being served heir to his father, David Pitcairn of Forthar, who died 3rd June 1739. Heir special in the lands, Barony, and Manor-place of Forthar, in the Parish of Kettle, Fifeshire, dated the 25th September and recorded October 1740. (Also No. 32.)



James Pitcairn, Clergyman at Cloon, Longford, in Ireland, only son of David Pitcairn, late of Forthar, brother-german of Marion Pitcairn, to his aunt, the said Marion Pitcairn, wife of William Bawen of Kinnittles, heir in general, dated 10th, and recorded 17th January 1759.

The Rev. James Pitcairn therefore was declared heir to Forthar; but the Pitcairns were ardent Jacobites, their estates of Forthar and Dovan were probably forfeited in 1745, as Pitcairn was in 1715. The estate had to be sold on the 23rd Feb. 1756, when it passed into the hands of Dr Stewart Threipland, who evidently bought it back for Dr William Pitcairn, for in the progress of writs of the Lands and Barony of Forthar there is an

Extract disposition of the said lands and Barony of Forthar by the said Dr Stewart Threipland in favour of Dr William Pitcairn (cousin to James Pitcairn of Forthar), physician in London, dated the 2nd of August and recorded in the books of Council and Session (office T. C.), 1st October 1773.<sup>1</sup>

Then there was the instrument of resignation of the said Lands and Barony of Forthar in favour of the said Dr William Pitcairn, dated the 6th day of August 1773.

Charter of Resignation following thereupon, sealed at Edinburgh, 15th September 1773.

Instrument of Sasine, dated 22nd of September, and recorded in the General Register of Sasines at Edinburgh, the 5th of October 1775.<sup>2</sup>

James Pitcairn of Forthar succeeded, therefore, to many difficulties and much embarrassment, which is easily understood, for, if his father were heavily fined for his opinions and Jacobite leanings, so that the estate had to be sold in 1756, David must have left little spare cash for his son and heir. James left Oxford in 1737, and before 1749 he had left Scotland for ever. He went to Ireland, and was appointed rector of Cloon near Longford. He wrote from there to his great friend, a Dr Middleton, who it appears helped him in his difficulties. They are pathetic letters, and wonderfully cheerful, considering he had lost his patrimony, was exiled from his old home, and much

<sup>1</sup> Indices of Retours for the County of Fife.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

hampered by small debts, which were a great trouble to him.

The letters speak for themselves, and are most interesting, from the quaint phraseology of a bygone time and the cheerful endurance of narrow means and fallen fortunes.

However, brighter times were in store for him, and in 1759 he was appointed to the livings of Compton Bassett and West Kington, in Wiltshire, and his hard struggles were then over. Later on he was made Prebendary of Exeter.

LETTERS OF THE REV. JAMES PITCAIRN TO  
DR MIDDLETON OF BRISTOL.<sup>1</sup>

*Letter 1.*

CLOON, NEAR LONGFORD,  
*Sept. 9, 1749.*

DEAR SIR,—While by means of Mr Roe's good-natured punctuality I was often informed of your welfare, I could the better bear your not writing to me, and in these circumstances thought my own silence the more excusable; but I cannot so well bear neither to hear from you, and hardly of you for so long a time as has past, since my receiving my letter from Mr Roe, which is now (I know not through what fatality) considerably above a twelvemonth. During so long a time I am afraid you will blame my negligence in omitting to write. But the daily expectation of hearing from my friend, who was not wont to disappoint me, contributed to occasion this silence. Believe me, sir, if I have written less frequently than I ought, it is neither because I am forgetful of your favours (your paternal kindnesses I might say) or regardless of your friendship.

The friendship of a man of so great worth and eminence as Dr Middleton, and to whom I am proud to acknowledge the greatest and most interesting obligations, will ever be

<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's Papers.

most dear to me. And as I cannot but set ye highest value on that friendship, so I shall have no fear of losing it, if you will allow me to plead a claim founded on the truest gratitude, love, and respect. These I should take leave to testify to you by writing much oftener, if my situation afforded any new matter for your entertainment.

But all I can say may be almost expressed in that one phrase, much made use of anciently, *Si vales, bene est; valeo*. And let me say that even this much from you would afford me an inexpressible pleasure. As to preferment, my state continues the same: as to debts and some other circumstances, it is a little different.

You well know how deeply I was involved at my coming into this country [Ireland from Scotland].

Oxford debts of mine, to the amount of £80, principal and interest, are discharged, and I now owe there £8 or £9 only, which is too much, and too long due, if it were in my power to help it.

I could not conceal these demands from the Archbishop of Tuam, Dr Hort, who pay'd off a large share of them for me, which with his assisting me on other pressing occasions, makes me indebted to him by Bond for £180.

[*Note*.—This debt was repaid by June 1757.]

Indeed it was his goodness kept my head above water when I was often ready to sink. None here know of the payment of any one Oxford debt, my wife excepted, from whom I had no inducement, if it had been in my power, to keep them a secret. She is too good to make them the occasion even of a harsh reflection. These are the difficulties I have laboured under, and have still to struggle with, which are not so formidable as they were, and I hope by God's blessing in time to surmount. As to my domestick concerns, I am blessed with three pretty, healthy children, and have the prospect of a fourth within a few months.

I have many avocations beside the care of a parish to take me off from study, and I have but few of those

Authors in Divinity which I like most, and which ye would generally despise. I wish I was near you, on that, as well as other accounts.

Mrs Axford and my wife join me in sincerest respects and best wishes to you and Miss Middleton, with all under your roof. I beg to be remembered to the two Messrs Cheyne, Bound, &c., &c., of all whose welfare I should rejoice to hear. If you would think of us here, and spend a few leisure moments (if you have any to spare from doing good to others) in letting us know how you do, you would much oblige us all; and I will beg leave to add that nothing would give us greater pleasure than to know of your being well, with all that are dear to you.—I am, Dear Sir, Yours with the greatest sincerity and respect,

JA. PITCAIRN.

I lately saw Mr and Mrs Campbell and family, all well. We greatly long for some accounts of Mrs Roe's family.

*Letter 2.*

CLOON, NEAR LONGFORD,  
*October 17, 1757.*

DEAR SIR,—Where an affectionate Respect, and a grateful sense of the most endearing favours, have been well rooted in the mind, the impression must be lasting, nor can ever be effaced, hardly perhaps diminished, by any length of time or casual alteration in outward circumstances.

Not conscious therefore of any diminution of these sentiments in myself, I presume to hope for your kind and candid construction of my long silence. Mrs Roe and Mrs Atkins, when they wrote, obliged me with an account of your welfare. But as the last they favoured me with was a long time ago, I can no longer dispense with myself for offering my affectionate inquiries after your own health and the health of those who are dear to you; which,



though I hope to be in a good state, yet should receive the highest pleasure, as would all here from your own confirmation of it. . . .

I would give you some account of my farming but for the fear of troubling you with too long a letter. I have divided, and enclosed, a good part of my glebe land, a portion of which expense, I expect, will be refunded by my successor.

I have limed some of my arable with good success, and am now preparing to try it, in reclaiming some coarse grounds I have enclosed. I have lately sowed with wheat nearly three acres, well limed and fallowed. The want of storage has been for the last twelvemonth severely felt in this country, where the poor were starving; but by the blessing of a gracious Providence they are now in possession of an uncommon plenty.

Let me beg the favour of you to acquaint Mrs Roe (with mine and family's most affectionate regards to her and Mr Atkins) that I received Mr Wesley's notes on the New Testament, for which I thank her. Tho' I have not had leisure to go through much of the work, yet I find many excellent things in what I have read. I devote as much of my time as my necessary avocations allow to the instructing of my little boy [Robert, his eldest son, who was afterwards rector of Englishcombe], whom I shall probably continue longer under my own care than I at first intended. You told me by letter that I could not employ my time better, which has had its due weight with me, and tho' long since past is often in my thoughts.

May the Giver of all good bless my endeavours, and make him—if not a fine scholar—a good man. He has begun the 3rd book of Ovid's *Metam.*, and gone through a good part of Cornelius Nepos.

A Clergyman, a friend of mine, one Mr Lloyd (whose son has thoughts of going to Bristol for improvement in Business, and is qualified for being Clerk to a Merchant), has requested me to mention his design to you, for your

friendly advice and assistance. He has been at home (in my parish) above a twelvemonth, and behaved well, though his father thinks him too young to set up trade for himself. May I hope from your usual benevolence that when you shall be so good as to favour me with a letter, you would hint what success might be expected, should he look to employment in Bristol in some such way as I have mentioned.

My wife and all this family have, I bless God, enjoyed a good degree of health since my last. We desire to join in most respectful compliments to you, Mr Sharman, Mrs Sharman, and all our good friends, whom we often think and speak of.—I am, with the truest Regard, Dr Sir, Your very affectionate and obliged humble servant,

JAS. PITCAIRN.

DR MIDDLETON,  
at his house,  
COLLEGE GREEN, BRISTOL.

Mr Pitcairn resigned his living in Ireland, went to London in 1759, took his LL.B. degree, and was appointed to the livings of Compton Bassett and West King-ton in Wiltshire. He still kept up his friendship with Dr Middleton, and seemed much relieved at the thought of settling down at Compton, where he lived for twenty years, and died there in 1700.

LETTER OF THE REV. JAMES PITCAIRN TO  
DR MIDDLETON OF BRISTOL.

LONDON, *June 5, 1759.*

DEAR SIR,—I received your favour of the 26th ult., with letters enclosed from my wife, and from several friends, for which I return you many thanks. I had been for a few days at Carshalton with Mr Lodge, and came home late and tired, which prevented my then acknowledging your letter. Before I received yours, my business was done at Lambeth, where I obtained the Degree of LL.B., which

fully answers my purpose, without a Chaplainship. As I was a stranger to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and now also in England, the desiring a higher Degree, without a friend on the spot to recommend it, would have looked like ostentation, but would have cost no more than that which was granted me, which is indeed every way sufficient. Dr Hort [Archbishop of Tuam] was mistaken in computing the expense at £26, with the Great Seal annexed, for it has cost very near £40, and I fear, notwithstanding Mr Hort's telling me that a dispensation to hold the two livings will cost only £27, that it will be nearer £40 more, beside the expense of collation to them, with four pound stamps to each, &c., &c. I have money due to me in Ireland well secured that would more than answer all this expense, but how to come at it in time I am really at a loss.

Dr Gilbert's presentation to Carshalton arrived this day, upon his Institution to which, the Wiltshire livings will become vacant. I have been introduced to the Bishop of Salisbury, and very favourably received. He said, from the account he had received of me, he should be glad to receive me into his Diocese, and would be very ready to collate me to both livings whenever vacated by Dr Gilbert. It is probable, therefore, I shall be collated to *Compton* some time to-morrow, and my dispensation pass the Great Seal on Monday, which will finish my business here. For the Bishop of Salisbury goes out of Town Monday morning, which will oblige me to wait on his Lordship there, to be collated to *West Kington*.

I long to be again with my family, and to provide a cheaper habitation for them and myself. These journeyings and migrations from one country and place to another, I trust to Divine goodness will terminate in a calm retreat, where I may be so happy as to resume once more the long interrupted duties of my Profession, be able to pay my debts, and provide for my family.

I have delivered your compliments to Dr Pitcairn<sup>1</sup> (who

<sup>1</sup> Dr William Pitcairn, P. R. C. P., F. R. S., his cousin.

desires to return his), but have not met with Dr O.,<sup>1</sup> whom I dined with one day at my cousin's upon my coming to town.

I beg my most respectful compliments to Mrs Ross and Mrs Sharman, and am, with the truest respect and esteem,—Dear Sir, Your most obliged and affectionate humble servant,

JA. PITCAIRN.

LETTERS OF THE REV. JAMES PITCAIRN TO  
HIS DAUGHTER HORT.

*Letter 1.*

COMPTON BASSETT.

DEAR HORT,—I am extremely sorry for the trouble which Mr and Mrs Martin have lately suffered, through an indiscreet frolick of one of their family. I can give it no worse name, because I think it does not deserve it. I desire you will present my most cordial good wishes and respects to them and their family, hoping they will take comfort, and not injure their own health by indulging too uneasy reflections on a slip which most likely never will be repeated, and which in a short time the world itself, censorious as it is, will not be able to apply to the disadvantage of her character.

I shall hope, therefore, Mr and Mrs Martin, and Miss Martin, or some of them, may favour us with their company on an ensuing occasion, which will add to the happiness of,—Dear Child, Yours, &c.,

JA. PITCAIRN.

To MISS H. PITCAIRN,  
TROWBRIDGE.

*Letter 2.*

DEAR HORT,—As I find I shall scarcely make a visit to Bath before your removal to Bristol, I cannot help taking this method of assuring you of my best wishes for your

<sup>1</sup> Dr Orme, of London.



success, praying Divine Goodness for a Blessing on your endeavours to be useful to yourself and others. If you steadily pursue this plan, you will find the truest satisfaction and peace of mind, and I cannot but think it just matter of thankfulness to Providence that you are staying with sober, religious, industrious people, which is no uncommon character among the inhabitants of that city, and which I hope you will find realised in those with whom you are to be connected [by marriage]. I hope to see Mrs Bryan in Easter week, if nothing unforeseen happens, and in the meantime make my best respects acceptable to her and Miss Hard.

I think it is not less than four weeks since I heard from Agnes,<sup>1</sup> nor do I yet know if she has received a pan of butter and a cheese from West Kington, which I directed to be sent by Mr King three weeks ago, and they use to be pretty punctual in executing such orders.

Best respects always attend Mrs Cheyne and Mrs Ross. Your sisters send their love, with their compliments and mine, to the Miss Howells.—Most affectionate blessing to you both from, Dr. Child, Yours, &c.,

JA. PITCAIRN.

COMPTON, 15<sup>th</sup> Mar. 1777.

MISS HORT PITCAIRN,  
Queen Street,  
Queen Square,  
BATH.

*Letter 3.*

DEAR HORT,—I have felt great concern for your long confinement, both on your own account and that of the worthy family with whom you are, and to whom it must have been no inconsiderable inconvenience. I beg you to assure them of my best wishes and sincerest gratitude. Whenever it pleases God you recover a little strength, to which the mildness of the weather will contribute, I hope we shall see you here, where you, and any friend who shall

<sup>1</sup> His daughter.

be so kind to accompany you, will be very acceptable guests.

We should have been glad if Mr Hodgkin [Mr Hodgkin here mentioned married Rebecca, Mr Pitcairn's daughter] could have spared us another day; but he could not at present stay longer from Trowbridge, considering his late absence. Agnes<sup>1</sup> informs us that Mr George is never well three days together, so you must settle affairs at Trowbridge as soon and as well as you can, without seeing him.

We leave the distribution of compliments to Mr Hodgkin, and am,—Dear Child, Yr. very affectionate, &c.,

JA. PITCAIRN.

COMPTON, 9th Feb. 1776.<sup>2</sup>

The following is a short extract of one of the Rev. James Pitcairn's sermons, preached by him in the eighteenth century:<sup>3</sup>—

“Eloquence is not required of us as necessary to recommend our prayers to our Heavenly Father; yet if it were required, even in this we need not be deficient, for the affections are always eloquent. If we feel our wants, our wants will teach us to pray, and if we are sensible of benefits received, gratitude will teach us to return thanks.

“Lastly, the true and spiritual worship of God consists in nothing more eminently than in submitting ourselves entirely to His good Providence with patience and contentment in our station, acquiescing under it, and an expectation of receiving good things from the hand of God, in that manner, and in that degree, and at that time, whether here or hereafter, which shall seem best to Him.

“Our principal duty, when in full possession of all temporal blessings, is to receive them with gratitude and thankful acknowledgment, to consider them as uncertain and transitory, to use them with moderation and discretion, to employ them to the honour of God, and to the service of mankind. But since God hath so ordered the course

<sup>1</sup> His daughter.

<sup>2</sup> Canon Pitcairn's Papers.

<sup>3</sup> From old MS.

of human things that there is no perfect happiness, no uninterrupted ease, no sincere pleasure in this life, but troubles, sickness, pain, and disappointments, losses and sorrows, which are scattered up and down here below, and wait for us and overtake us in some part or other of our progress through mortality, we shall scarcely ever want opportunities of exercising the patient and submissive virtues of resignation to the Will of Almighty God.

“In all times and in all circumstances let us rely upon Him, as upon our great Friend and Benefactor; and firmly believe that He orders all with consummate wisdom and perfect goodness, that they who love Him shall receive whatsoever is convenient for them. *This* is to honor and worship Him not in words and pretence, but in deed and in truth, with the heart and understanding, and all the powers of the Soul, and to pay Him the most rational and the most acceptable service; to the performance of which let us implore His gracious assistance to conduct us through the troublesome waves of this world unto everlasting rest, to fill our hearts with Grace, and to crown our heads with Glory.”

Prebendary Pitcairn was a good, sincere, and kind-hearted man, who had had to submit to the loss of worldly goods of many kinds, but was not embittered by it, and evidently tried to do his duty by his parish and his family. He was a true friend, and an affectionate husband and father. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir — Axford, a Gloucestershire baronet.

After he went to live at Compton Bassett, he was made Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral.

The Pitcairns had ten children:—

Elizabeth, born Jan. 3, 1744.

Robert, born Dec. 11, 1745.

Hort, their daughter, born Jan. 9, 1748-49.

Agnes, born Dec. 11, 1749.

Hester, born Dec. 1, 1750.

Rebecca, born July 17, 1753.

William, born Mar. 16, 1756.

James, born Dec. 31, 1757.

Frances, born Sept. 4, 1759.

Constant, born Dec. 6, 1762.

In 1776 his daughter Rebecca was married to the Rev. Charles Hodgkin, Vicar of Caterham:—

In 1776 Charles Hodgkin, Clerk (or curate) of the Parish of Trowbridge, and Vicar of Caterham in Surrey, and Rebecca Pitcairn, of the Parish of Compton Bassett, were married in this Church, by license, the 26th day of March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six by me,

JA. PITCAIRN, *Rector*.

This marriage was solemnized	} CHARLES HODGKIN.
between us	

In presence of AGNES PITCAIRN, THOMAS MARTIN, and FRANCES PITCAIRN.

(True copy, W. CLARKE, *Rector*.)

James Pitcairn died in 1780. The following is the inscription on his tomb at Compton Bassett:—

Sacred to the memory of the Revd. JAMES PITCAIRN, LL.B., late Prebendary of Exeter, and for 20 years Rector of this Parish and West Kington.

Who died Jan. 28, 1780.

Aged 64 years.

In life respected,

In death lamented.

ELIZABETH, his wife, died Oct. 4, 1771.

Aged 49 years.

ELIZABETH, their daughter, died Nov. 28, 1778.

Aged 34 years.

CONSTANT, another daughter, died June 1, 1776.

Aged 5 years.

In the extract from the Register of Burials in the Parish of Compton Bassett in the County of Wilts, in the year 1771, it says:—

Oct. 4. Elizabeth Pitcairn, wife of the Rev. James Pitcairn, then



Rector of this Parish, was buried in the Chancel about three feet distant from the North Wall ;

and

On Feb. 3, 1780, James Pitcairn, LL.B., Rector of Compton Bassett and West Kington in this County, and Prebendary of the Church of Exeter, was buried.

The Rector, W. Clarke, in 1864 declares these to be true extracts.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's Papers.

## CHAPTER XX.

## THE REV. ROBERT PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK.

THE Rev. Robert Pitcairn, Vicar of Englishcombe, twenty-first in descent, was the eldest son of the Rev. James Pitcairn of that Ilk, Prebendary of Exeter, Rector of Compton Bassett and West Kington. Robert was born on the 11th of December 1745, at Cloon in Ireland, and was the boy mentioned in a letter of his father's to Dr Middleton, in which he says that he himself is teaching his son.

Robert went to Oxford, and an extract made by John Griffiths, M.A., Keeper of the Archives, states that in "1764 Aprilis 11<sup>o</sup> Mert. Robertus Pitcairn 18, son of Jacobis Pitcairn de West Kington Coun. Wilt., matriculated and took the degree of B.A. at Balliol, Oct. 27, 1768, Cler. fil."

After having taken his degree, he became minister of Spring Gardens Chapel, Lecturer at Spitalfields, and was chosen one of the six Select Preachers at Greyfriars. He married, in 1775, Denne, daughter of Joseph Mallam, Esq. The Register says:—

Robert Pitcairn of the Parish of Hungerford, in the County of Berks, and Denne Mallam, of the Parish of Chilton Foliot, were married in the Parish Church of Chilton Foliot by Licence, the twenty-fifth day of September, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

By JOHN CROFTS, *Minister*.

Witnesses { William Poutin, }  
              { John Martin, } *Churchwardens*.

In the presence of Elizabeth Mallam and Ann Bunch.

The above is a true copy of the Register of the Parish of Chilton Foliot. Signed, EDWARD POPHAM, D.D., Rector of Chilton Foliot, Dec. 20, 1795.

## THE REV. ROBERT PITCAIRN. 201

Robert Pitcairn was thirty years of age when he married, and his wife eighteen. She was born in 1757, and baptised the same year:—

Denne, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Mallam, was baptised February 22, 1757, as appears by the Register of the Parish of Chilton Foliot in the County of Wilts.

By WALTER KITSON, *Rector.*

FULWAR CRAVEN, }  
JAMES MARTIN, } *Churchwardens.*

This Register was copied on May 27, 1819.

Robert Pitcairn was considered a first-rate preacher—in fact, he would not have been chosen as one of the select preachers at Greyfriars if he had not been eloquent. About ten years after his marriage he was given the living of Englishcombe in Somersetshire; but he did not hold it long, as he died at the comparatively early age of forty-seven.

The Rev. Robert Pitcairn, B.A., Rector of Englishcombe, Somerset, was admitted 15th Feb. 1786—

By virtue of this mandate the Rev. Robert Pitcairn, Clerk, was inducted into the real, actual, and corporal Possession of the Vicarage of Englishcombe, with all the rights and appurtenances thereto belonging.

By me,

PHILIP DART,  
*Rector of Stratton.*

*Witnesses* { Joseph Cottle,  
Benjamin Milsom.

He died on the 7th May 1792, and was buried in the church at Spitalfields, in his own vault beneath the altar, with two of his children.

He had several children—

1. James, born at Little Bedwin, Wilts, July 18, 1776.
2. Elizabeth Frances, born at Kintbury, Berks, Oct. 19, 1777.
3. Joseph Axford, born at Kintbury, Berks, March 3, 1779. Died Sept. 25, 1780.

4. Robert Edward, born at Kintbury, April 29, 1780. Died Feb. 29, 1784.

5. William, born at Kintbury, Dec. 21, 1781.

6. Denne Catherine, born in the parish of Christ Church, Middlesex, July 10, 1783. Died March 18, 1784.

7. Harriet Jane, born in Christ Church parish, Middlesex, Feb. 29, 1785.

8. Eupheme, born in the parish of St James', Clerkenwell, Dec. 23, 1787.

Three of his children, two boys and a girl, died young.

As an example of his writings, an extract of one of his sermons is included in this short notice of his life.

His voice was a very fine one, and people are said to have gone to Spring Gardens Chapel on purpose to hear him read the "Lord's Prayer," as he was supposed to read it very beautifully. His son, William Pitcairn, used to tell of a miraculous escape from death by lightning that his father had.

"He was sitting in his study one day during a thunder-storm. The house was struck by lightning, and the wall of the room he was in was split and pushed out, the electric fluid going into the earth. His watch, which was in his 'fob,' was melted, also his knee-buckle at the side next the injured wall; he was stunned but not otherwise injured."

PART OF SERMON OF REV. ROBERT PITCAIRN (read over by his son, WILLIAM PITCAIRN, in 1832), preached in the latter part of the Eighteenth Century.<sup>1</sup>

It is not so easy a task as some apprehend, faithfully to discharge the obligations which religion requires, and to walk in all the commandments of God blameless.

No easy task rightly to conduct and discipline our passions; to correct the various disorders and wrong propensities of our nature; to turn the bias of our inclinations from evil to good; to guard the heart from evil thoughts, and restrain the tongue from uncharitable censure; to possess a mind equal to every condition and event of life — in

<sup>1</sup> In Canon Pitcairn's Papers.



adversity, to be patient and resigned; in prosperity, to be humble and humane; under provocations, to be meek and benevolent; to possess our souls with a filial reverence to our Maker; to keep our will in perfect submission to the will of Heaven; to set God always before us; to have our duty always in our eye; to keep the soul always awake to its supreme and immortal interests; to oppose the stream of criminal custom, and to preserve an unspotted purity amidst the pollutions of the world. Not to be tempted by the example or persuasion, the friendship or reproaches, of others; and in general to restrain all our inclinations and passions, our desires and aversions, within the bounds of duty; steadily to direct our steps in the paths of religion; to improve to the best advantage every talent entrusted to our care; and to prepare ourselves to be fit inhabitants of that holy place where nothing impure can enter.

As the task is thus arduous and important, so the time to perform it in is but short.

How inconsiderable is the natural term of human life, even in its utmost extent! And how is this scanty measure of our years still further abridged by various causes! Part of life passes away before the dawn of reason gives us a discernment of good and evil; a great part of it is elapsed before we arrive at any maturity of understanding. If to this circumstance we add the infirmities and disorders that usually attend, and cloud the evening of life, how short then is the intermediate time for the moral culture of the soul? Especially when we reflect that the demands of our respective stations, and the unavoidable cares of the world, consume a large portion of it.

Exposed always to a thousand accidents, we know not what a day or hour may bring forth. Life is held by so uncertain a tenure, that in the midst of it we are said to be in death. No time but the present, therefore, can we consider as our own. The time that is past was ours indeed; and as we employed it, well or ill, will it accordingly be placed to our account!

The time that is future we cannot reckon upon; it may or may not be ours. We are secure of nothing but the present, and no portion of time beyond the present *may* possibly be granted us. The present time, therefore, we should embrace and improve to the best purposes; and make that our own by virtue and wisdom, which when once past, can never be recalled. If we lose the present, we lose all that is, all that perhaps ever may be ours. It is the immediate business of *to-day* to serve God, and to be useful to our fellow-creatures.

To this end a careful review is requisite in order to observe in what manner we have performed the duties we owe to God and our fellow-creatures—whether there be any sin which we have not duly repented of, and for which we have not implored the divine forgiveness; whether there be any injury done to our neighbours, for which we have not made sufficient reparation; whether our gratitude to the Divine Being has been suited to the blessings we have received; and whether the good or kind offices we have done to others were proportioned to our ability to aid them.

Mrs Pitcairn was early left a widow to mourn her husband's loss. She seems to have been a very sweet, as well as a very religious woman. There is a miniature of her in our possession, which is reproduced in this book.

She was very good, and her sons were devoted to her.

The prayer she always used gives a slight indication of her beautiful nature:—

PRAYER WRITTEN AND USED DAILY BY  
MRS ROBERT PITCAIRN.

Almighty Father, at the close of another day, I kneel before Thee in humble supplication, and ere I compose my body to sleep, I would steal a few moments from weariness, to lift up my thoughts to Thy perfection, to meditate on Thy wonderful dispensations, and to make my requests known unto Thee. And now, O Blessed Redeemer, my



MRS. ROBERT PITCAIRN.  
1790.



MRS. WILLIAM PITCAIRN.  
1804.





Rock, my Hope, and only sure defence, to Thee do I cheerfully commit both my soul and my body. If Thy all-wise Providence see fit, grant that I may rise in the morning, refreshed with sleep, and with a Spirit of cheerfulness and activity for the duties of the day; but whether I wake here or in Eternity, grant, Blessed Lord, that my trust in Thee may remain sure, and my hope unshaken.—Amen.

Mr and Mrs Pitcairn's daughter Eliza married, in 1799, Thomas Richard Babington, Esq., barrister-at-law, one of the chief magistrates of the City of Dublin, eldest son of Richard Babington, Esq. of Boyle's Hill, Donegal.

He died, at the early age of forty-three, on the 12th Oct. 1816, leaving two sons and two daughters. It was said of him at the time of his death that "He was a man whose valuable services to the public, whose piety and domestic qualities, whose gentleness and benevolence, endeared him to all who knew him. His loss will be long felt in that circle of which he was an ornament, and to his disconsolate widow and four children it is irreparable."

Their son, Pelham Babington, married, on the 22nd Sept. 1829, his cousin Harriet, eldest daughter of James Pitcairn, Esq., M.D. And in July 1830, Frances, *their* eldest daughter, married Thomas S. Fleming, Esq., second son of Beecher Fleming, Esq. of New Court, County Cork, who left three daughters, two unmarried, one married to Colonel Fish.

## CHAPTER XXI.

## THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PITCAIRN.

WILLIAM PITCAIRN, born at Kintbury, Berks, on December the 1st, 1781, was the fourth son of the Rev. Robert Pitcairn. He was only eleven years old when his father died. He was apprenticed in London when quite young (only fifteen), and became a West Indian merchant. He acquired a large fortune, but later on trade with the West Indies became very bad, owing to the agitation about the slaves and from other causes, and he lost about £40,000 on his properties there. However, this did not seem to affect his happiness in any way. He was of a most cheerful, contented, and beautiful character, and settled down very comfortably in his later years in a smallish house (Culver Cottage) he had built for himself at Bognor, and was very happy there. Unfortunately it did not suit his wife: he therefore sold it, and they went to live with his nephew, the Rev. James Pelham Pitcairn, and his wife, at Longsight Rectory.

He was of that benevolent disposition which finds heart-felt pleasure in doing good to others. United to great rectitude of character and very good business habits, he had the kindest disposition, so that in his long life there were very many who turned to him for advice and counsel.

He was trustee, not only for his own relations, but for a very great many other people. Sons and daughters of old friends were his wards, to whom he behaved as a father, and also he managed (with others) many public trusts.

Mr Pitcairn was very much respected and loved by all

his friends, of whom he had a great number. Only one of his wards seems not to have merited his kindness.

Mr Pitcairn had a most loving nature, and was a devoted husband to a wife ailing for years, a true and faithful friend, extremely fond of his only remaining brother, Sir James Pitcairn, and good to all his nephews and nieces.

In 1796 he got his indenture as Apprentice to the Skinner's Company, and on the 6th of December 1803 he had the Freedom of the City, and was eventually made Master of the Skinner's Company. In 1808 he went to Jamaica, was Collector of Customs, and attended to his own property there. He then returned to London, and became a merchant in that city.

Mr Pitcairn had slaves, and it is curious now to read an entry like the following one, in his scrap-book:—

At Morant Bay, 18th September 1808, there is an entry in the Church of St Thomas in the East—

This is to certify that a Negro girl named Sally Forster, the property of William Pitcairn, Esquire, Collector of His Majesty's Customs at Port Morant, Jamaica, was this day baptized in the Parish Church by

JOHN WEST, *Rector*.

Another memorandum at Port Morant, Jamaica, states—

That I, this 27th day of April 1810, agree to sell with a warranted title, and to make over my right and title so warranted, to a certain Negro man called Charles, to William Pitcairn, Esq., Collector of His Majesty's Customs at Port Morant, Jamaica, in consideration of the sum of one hundred and ninety pounds, currency, well and truly paid to me by the said William Pitcairn on or before the 20th July 1810.

MICK O'HAGAN.

Signed in the presence { Brownhill,  
of Witnesses { Brough.

Two years afterwards William Pitcairn gave his slave his freedom in the following memorandum:—

I give unto Charles, the above named and mentioned man—my Negro male slave, his freedom after my death—indeed immediately.”

WILLIAM PITCAIRN.

29th of May 1812.

This man still continued Mr Pitcairn's servant, returned with him to England, and was baptised in London.

LETTER OF FRANCES, daughter of Rev. JAMES PITCAIRN, Rector of Compton Bassett, to her Nephew, WILLIAM PITCAIRN.

*Aug. 4, 1814.*

SIR,—I have been happy in being enabled so far to proportion my expenses to my Receipts as not to be under ye necessity of troubling you for any irregular remittance from my little income since ye beginning of Augt. 13, when you had ye goodness to send me ye sum of £ by ye hand of Mrs Goudye. As I thank God my health is better now, than for some few years past, I will only request ye favor of Pounds for this year, feeling it a duty (particularly at my advanced period of life) to go rather within than beyond what may be considered as really necessary for me to expend. It will be a very sincere satisfaction to me to hear at ye same time of your wellfare, whose protecting goodness to me has not only been in ye care of my little patrimony, but on all occasions. Having occasionally received favour from my friends ye Howell family, since my late dear Sister's decease, which I should wish to acknowledge by a favour too, I hope you will excuse my taking this opportunity of requesting a cover of any date directed ye favor of

To Mrs LUCY HOWELL, at  
ARTHUR PARTREYS, Esq.,  
Leskeard, Cornwall;

but if attended by any kind of inconvenience, beg you will pass this post over, as if it had not been written, and accept most grateful Respects from,—Ever you much obliged Humble Servant,

FRANCES PITCAIRN.

*Note by Mr WILLIAM PITCAIRN.*

This Lady, my aunt, left me her fortune, very small. I portioned it to my Mother, Brother, Sister, and myself. W. P.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER TO WILLIAM PITCAIRN, ON THE  
BATTLE OF WATERLOO.

Buonaparte has just sustained a signal defeat. On the 15th the French attacked the Prussian outposts. Intelligence was immediately conveyed by a Prussian Officer to the Duke of Wellington, who put his army in motion immediately, and a general action



took place within about 15 miles of Brussels, between the French Army, consisting of about 130,000 men, and the United Armies of the Duke of Wellington and Blücher. It continued 3 days, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday last.

When the Messenger came away, the French having been beaten at all points, were in full retreat, pursued in particular by a Squadron of British Horse, that had not been engaged. Murat was seen at the head of one of the French divisions, greatly distinguishing himself. General Bertrand is said to be taken Prisoner, and a number of French Officers killed and wounded. Amongst the slain on the part of the Allies are Generals Pack and Hay, and the Duke of Brunswick. The 42nd Regiment, and another Regiment, are almost all cut to pieces. The field of Battle was so extensive, that the number of killed and wounded could not be ascertained. Buonaparte expected to have obtained a decisive victory over the Allies, and in particular the British headed by the Duke of Wellington.

In this, however, he has been completely frustrated.

The above intelligence was brought by one of the King's Messengers, who reached town about 12 o'clock. The telegraphs have been since at work. And I hear that an officer is on the road with Despatches, whose arrival in Town may be expected this evening.

*Tuesday, 20th June /15.*

Another letter says :—

Telegraphic Intelligence reached the Admiralty about 1 o'clock—announcing that Buonaparte has been arrested and put in prison.

They are all in high spirits at the Treasury on the occasion. But God knows what will be the end of the Proceedings at Paris.

*Monday, 26 June /15.*

Mr Pitcairn married, in April 1820, Phœbe, daughter of Mr Richardson.

Mr Ranking, an able solicitor, and a great friend of William Pitcairn's, wrote to congratulate him as follows in an amusing letter :—

DEAR PITCAIRN,—I heartily congratulate you on having wisely and prudently qualified to suppress the disconsolate *B*, from following your name in your returns to the Tax Office! With the feelings and sincerity of true regard—tho' in the phraseology of the Drama (and what is this life but a Drama?)—I must express my

ardent wishes that "your mutual friendship, confidence, and love may end but *with* your lives," and as we are apt to say to ourselves on such occasions, I must be allowed to add, "for ever sacred be the seventh of April." Pray tell your dear Mother I congratulate her, too, on this additional happiness to you, and to your Lady say all things kind.—Your sincerely,

GEORGE RANKING.

CHEAPSIDE, 11th April 1820.

I print a few letters written by, and to, William Pitcairn, which will show the kindness of his heart, and the respect in which he was held by every one with whom he came in contact:—

*From* Sir CHARLES DALBIAC, declining an Invitation to the Skinner's Company's Dinner, *to* WILLIAM PITCAIRN, Esq.

SCAWBY, November 19, 1835.

MY DEAR FRIEND.—It would afford me much pleasure to have attended your Dinner on December the 1st, but I shall only get to Town on the eve of that day; add to which I shall be very much occupied. To say the truth, all necessary preliminaries for my Daughter's marriage having been most liberally and happily adjusted during our Visit in Scotland, the young people began to think there was no use in waiting much longer for their Union, and Susan (always bearing in mind *your* advice) has consented to change her name before the expiration of 1836. For which purpose the Duke will arrive in Town about a week after ourselves.

She unites in sincere regard to Mrs Pitcairn and yourself, with,  
—Yours always most faithfully,

J. CHARLES DALBIAC.

*Postscript by* SUSAN DALBIAC.

You see, my dear Mr Pitcairn, how I have taken your good advice! Should you have time to call and see me, pray do; the *first week* in December would be the best time, for then I should be less busy than when my marriage was nearer at hand. I think you would like to see your little friend before her name was changed, tho' it will not alter her in any other respect. Louisa Luard will be with me, and she desires her love. Ahem! Mine to dear Mrs P.—Always your affectionate

SUSAN.

## THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PITCAIRN. 211

*From* Sir CHARLES DALBIAC, on the Marriage of his Daughter  
SUSAN to the DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, to W. PITCAIRN, Esq.,  
4 Brixton Place, Brixton.

29th December 1836.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—You insisted upon a line when the knot should be tied. 'Tis done! The moment of parting with *such* a child was a moment of sorrow to a Father's heart. But joy will soon return, for I am confident of her happiness!—Yrs. faithfully,  
J. CH<sup>S</sup>. DALBIAC.

*From* The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to WILLIAM PITCAIRN,  
Culver Cottage, Bognor, Sussex.

8th July 1838.

MY DEAR MR PITCAIRN,—I assure you the sight of your handwriting pleased me very much, and I would sooner have assured you how much your letter gratified me; but I waited till the Coronation<sup>1</sup> bustle was a little subsided, during which I was almost too hurried *to eat or sleep*. It would have given me sincere pleasure to see you, and to show you my darling little girl, had you been in London, but I can well imagine how greatly you and your dear wife must enjoy the country, and I feel daily how preferable it is to London. In a few days now we hope to bend our steps towards our dear home, of which both the Duke and I are very, very fond, and I know your kind friendship, and interest for me will have made you rejoice to hear how perfectly happy I am in all respects. My dearest Father is in very good health; but I am sorry the late promotion he has got will remove him from his military appointment, which suited him so very well. He is highly delighted with his grandchild, as you can imagine, and she really is a dear engaging little creature.

Pray give Mrs Pitcairn my kind love, and accept yourself my best wishes for health and happiness for you both. Roxburghe desires his kind regards, and always believe me, my dear Mr Pitcairn,—Yr. very sincere friend,  
SUSAN ROXBURGHE.

*From* Sir CHARLES DALBIAC to WILLIAM PITCAIRN,  
Bognor, Sussex.

5th September 1839.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—The *Marquis of Bowmont* arrived safely this morning at 4 o'clock, and a most Noble Marquis he is. What is of equal moment to me, his precious Mother is as well as any

<sup>1</sup> Coronation of Queen Victoria.

Mother can possibly be after giving birth to a fine Infant. We are all in the enthusiasm of joy; but none more so than—Yours faithfully and sincerely,  
J. CH<sup>S</sup>. DALBIAC.

*From* Mr WM. PITCAIRN *to* his Ward, J. L. COWELL, Esq.

CULVER COTTAGE, BOGNOR, SUSSEX,  
18th March 1841.

DEAR JOHN,—I am glad to find that you have safely received mine of the 13th. I omitted one point which you noticed as to Mr Hay's friend, Mr Johnston. The truth of the matter is, just before my retirement from business I had, with my excellent partner, to wind up our then mortgage upon his estate, and had to do one of 2 things—take the patrimonial estate of, and from, the friend of my youth (Mr Johnston), or my partner and myself consent to lose between 8 & 9 thousand hard pounds. We preferred the loss of the said between 8 & 9 thousand pounds, and when I last heard of this man he was then living upon his estate. Beyond this I need not go, excepting that it has forced me to live in my old days upon a narrow instead of a liberal income; yet, thanks be to God, I still can walk when I ought to ride, few old persons are more happy, more thankful or content,—so take you a lesson out of that. Mr Hay is a scholar; are you aware, but for the Earl of Kennoul having children, *he* would be the real heir to the Title and Estates? He is quick, a little voluble, but a gentleman quite.

I am sorry that you do not know Mrs Hay, as I consider her much like her excellent Father, a *very* superior person in all respects.

God bless & prosper all your honest efforts prays — Yours sincerely,  
WM. PITCAIRN.

*To* JAMES TOWNSON, Esq., Jamaica, *from* WILLIAM PITCAIRN.

CULVER COTTAGE, BOGNOR,  
29 April 1842.

DEAR TOWNSON,—I am almost ashamed of myself for suffering my old & kind friend's letter of January the 8th to remain so long unanswered. I fear age induces delay & procrastination, which ought to be fought against, because "to-morrow" may not be ours, therefore it's good to be thankful & make the best use we can of the time present.

I congratulate you with all my heart in the favourable account you give me of your sons. I hope they will ever maintain as high a character for integrity as their Father. How time rolls on! for I think it's 32 or 33 years ago that I began writing to you. I think



## THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PITCAIRN. 213

I have one or two letters of yours dated 1809 & 1810, so that you must be approaching to the old gentleman as well as myself,—I am in my 61st year. I hope the Earl of Elgin will prove a good Governor for the Queen of Isles. By the paper you will have seen the death of Sir Lionel Smith at Government House (Mauritius). Sir Robert Peel is very factiously opposed in the House by the Opposition, which is a pity, for it obstructs the business of the country; and it's a pity so able a Minister should be thwarted in his energies to do good. I fear you will get tired of my prosy long letter. Pray let me have the pleasure now & then to hear from you when time permits. Mrs P. joins me in best, very best, wishes for your health. Believe me always—Yrs. very sincerely,

WM. PITCAIRN.

The following is Mr William Pitcairn's excellent advice to Miss Hooper when she has to become a trustee:—

As you are obliged to act, you must work with your own choice as to solicitor.

You can't go on without one. If I were you I would copy the will into a *Book*—not on paper singly: it's a voucher which you may have often to refer to; and this should be done before Probate, as office copies cost money.

Record day by day every step you take; have legal sanction in what you do, as you will be assailed even in your honest course from all quarters you least imagine.

DOVER, 27th December 1845.

*From Mrs DIANA BOWDEN to Mr WM. PITCAIRN, thanking him for the trouble he has taken about her Niece's affairs when he was Trustee.*

*Sept. 28th, /50.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I am very glad that the arrangement you are making for Diana will be *now* easily settled, and your mind relieved from any anxiety on this subject. If the departed know the transactions of the living, you are adding to the felicity of him [Diana's father] who placed implicit confidence in your friendship and integrity.

I trust all matters regarding legal advice may soon be settled, and that the Lord may reward you with His gracious presence, and grant you the full enjoyment of inward Peace for your straightforward honest conduct towards the child of your departed friend.—Believe me, dear Sir, yours truly obliged,

DIANA BOWDEN.

*To Miss HANCE from Mr WM. PITCAIRN (her Guardian).*

ST HELEN'S TERRACE, IPSWICH,  
16th Sept. 1850.

MY DEAR MISS HANCE,—Accept my best thanks for your prompt letter of the 9th inst. and its wise double enclosures, as well as for the all-sufficient reason you give me in not writing upon the previous day. I have cast my eye over the vouchers as above, and they appear in perfect order; but while the thought is passing through my mind, I advise you never write anything in relation to money matters without keeping a copy by you of the same: this is a rule you should rigidly abide by. I am sorry to say that as far as my experience goes of young folks from the Queen of Isles, economy is perfect Hebrew to most, if not all, that have come under my notice. I am willing to hope that you are an exception. Those who know not what practical prudence in money matters is, live on the borders of dishonesty, for it's wonderful how soon the passing over one line leads you into the awful boundary of the other—then, oh then, all self-dignity is gone. It's making no provision for old age not to economise timely. Providence is all-bountiful, it is true; but you are bound to use your best efforts in helping yourself, honestly and by self-denial. The best self-check is to keep a rigid account of every penny spent—even if you could only save ten or fifteen pounds a-year. You have in your devoted and affectionate Aunt Bowden, with Mrs Hunt, a sure mode of getting your little monies housed in the Consols as often as needful. I am too old for any money trust matters even for a day now.—I remain, most faithfully, always your friend,

WM. PITCAIRN.

*From DIANA HANCE to Mr WM. PITCAIRN.*

*Dec. 30th, 1850.*

MY DEAR SIR,—Having been informed from time to time of the truly kind interest you are taking in my affairs, I do, I assure you, feel myself under great obligation to you, particularly for your kindness in continuing the Trusteeship. Permit me, therefore, in wishing you every happiness for the coming year, to beg your acceptance of a gold pencil-case as a slight proof of the gratitude I really feel. My little offering will, I hope, reach you by the same post by which you receive this note. With many, many good wishes,—I remain, my dear Sir, Your truly obliged,

DIANA HANCE.

*From Mrs DIANA BOWDEN to Mr WILLIAM PITCAIRN.*

11th March /51.

MY GOOD FRIEND,—I was not aware that so many weeks had elapsed since the receipt of your very INTERESTING letter, dated the 4th of February.

It is by comparison that we are led very often to set a proper value on friends and friendly *honest* actions; in such estimation will be your character by all who have had to deal with you, for you have exemplified the Poet's motto, that "an honest man is the noblest work of God." Had he been a Christian Poet he would not have *summed* up the distinction in SO FEW WORDS; nevertheless, in this Godless world, to find a morally honest man is a very great blessing, but you, my good friend, who are distinguished by the highly favoured Principle of Love to the Lord Jesus Christ, you possess a peace, a satisfaction unknown to the mere moralist; the conduct of your other Ward excites our pity, for unless the grace of repentance be given, he will, with the young man in the Gospel, fall short of heavenly Bliss. He will have his good things in this life, poor empty unsatisfying pleasures.

I hope I shall not have tired you with my long letter; but it is an answer to two of yours.—And now, Believe me, Yrs. sincerely  
D. BOWDEN.

*From The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE, Floors Castle, to  
W. PITCAIRN, Esqre., 25 Castle Street, Dover.*

December 23rd.

It is high time, I am sure, my dear Mr Pitcairn, I accounted for my silence. You will not have thought it unkind, for we are, I am sure, too old friends for that. But I was not well for some time; nothing serious, but I had knocked myself up a little by over-fatigue—and then the terrible news from the Crimea had an effect upon me, I really cannot describe. I never got our poor fellows out of my head—that awful charge! with my precious Father's regiment in it—then that terrible battle, and my gallant young cousin Norcliffe Dalton killed. I assure you his young widow and two helpless infants at Constantinople *haunted* me and do so still, and as I look at our own happy unbroken little circle, my heart seems to bleed afresh, for the many wretched friends and relatives *one man's obstinacy* has desolated for ever. Here, thank God, all is bright.

My sweet Susan, now seventeen, very pretty and (better far than pretty) all our fond hopes can desire. Our dear Bowmont doing

well at Eton, now at home for Christmas—and the young couple, Charlotte and Charlie, intelligent and handsome children. Roxburghe is very well—was taken for *Susan's husband* one day lately! And I am now quite myself again—and feel very little aged by having a grown-up daughter!

I must try and see you and dear Mrs Pitcairn this next year, if all be well, and show you my Susan. I am rejoiced to hear that you, and my dear old friend Mrs P., are well in health, and have so charming an addition in your family as your niece's young daughter must prove—and her *voice* a great acquisition. My girls will both sing well—and of all accomplishments it is the most enviable, I think. I had a very nice letter this morning from James,<sup>1</sup> to which I have replied. He gives, I grieve to see, a poor account of my uncle.<sup>2</sup> And I was truly sorry to read in the paper the death of one of Louisa Rowley's boys; she has, I fear, poor thing, had great trials, and this must be the worst of all.

I think it will interest you to hear that my dearest Father's last charger was killed at Inkermann. He left his horses to my eldest boy, who was too young to ride them, and at my desire, gave Gypsy (this mare) to our dear friend Colonel Sullivan, Assistant Adjutant-General; he asked my leave to take her to the East—she carried him at Alma and Balaclava, and met with her gallant end on the 5th of November. I am thankful to say her rider was spared. I think you will agree with me that this was a worthy end for my dear Father's horse.

Now I must have wearied you, and I must turn to *Soup Tickets, Coal Lists, &c.*, that my poor people may be warm on the 29th, when my dear Roxburghe and I shall have been married eighteen years. Give my very kind love to dear Mrs Pitcairn, and with every kind wish from us both for the New Year,—Believe me, my dear kind old friend, Most affectionately yours,

S. ROXBURGHE.

*From Sir JOHN CAMPBELL to WILLIAM PITCAIRN, Esq.,  
Albert Street, Regent's Park.*

3 ST GEORGE'S PLACE, HYDE PARK CORNER,  
*June 3rd, 1852.*

MY DEAR WILLIAM PITCAIRN,—The sufferings of my Brother William, your old and valued friend, are over. He expired at 6.15 this morning. He had suffered more torment than usual for several days, but for the last 36 hours was unconscious.

My best compliments to Mrs Pitcairn.—Yours truly and affectionately,

JOHN CAMPBELL.

<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn.

<sup>2</sup> Sir James Pitcairn.



## THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PITCAIRN. 217

*From J. LANGLANDS COWELL, Esq., to WM. PITCAIRN, Esq.*

GIBRALTAR, 7th Febr'y. 1858.

MY DEAR AND MUCH REGARDED OLD GUARDIAN,—I had the pleasure of receiving your valued letter of 26th Decr. last (which I read over several times), and should ere this have thanked you for it, as well as for your kindness in sending me *your Photograph*, which is framed and placed in my Drawing Room, amongst the likenesses of the several Monarchs whom I have the honour to represent here!—so that you are in good company! and when my friends enquire who it represents, I feel a gratification in telling them it is my second Father.

With my best wishes for your health and happiness, believe me ever,—My dear Mr Pitcairn, Your grateful Ward, and attached Friend,

J. LANGLANDS COWELL.

I am now in my 60th year! I do not like this E. Indian War. The poor Queen of *Oude* was badly met, on her arrival in England, by the Govt., who acted very discourteously, as well as unjustly towards her country—hence the Insurrection in India, I think.

A letter from you, at any time, will be most acceptable.

I hope it is possible to see from these few letters how entirely William Pitcairn's life was spent in working for, and helping others. They are only a very small part of a great mass of correspondence he has left. He was Trustee for very many people, Guardian to others; and it was not only being Trustee, but the admirable way he fulfilled the Trusts, and the entering into most minute and tedious details for years, without losing his interest in the affairs, that is truly astonishing. Indeed, it did astonish and fill with respect all those with whom he came in contact.

The gratitude and affection his goodness drew forth were quite wonderful, and in only one sad instance was his kindness misplaced.

His later years were spent with his nephew, James Pelham Pitcairn, at the Rectory, Longsight, where his wife died. When Canon Pitcairn was appointed to Eccles in 1861, his uncle came too, but died in the following year, aged eighty-two, and was buried in his own vault in Longsight. His old age was a beautiful one, for he had a most unselfish character, and died beloved, and regretted by all his friends and relations.

## CHAPTER XXII.

## SIR JAMES PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK.

SIR JAMES PITCAIRN, Inspector-General of Hospitals for Ireland, Chief of the house of Pitcairn, twenty-second in descent, was born at Little Bedwin, Wilts, on the 18th of July 1776. He was the eldest son of the Rev. Robert Pitcairn of that Ilk, Rector of Englishcombe, Somerset, and of Denne Mallam, his wife. James Pitcairn lived in London in his young days, was educated there, and then went to study at St George's Hospital, he and Sir Benjamin Brodie being fellow-pupils of Sir Everard Home.

He graduated at Edinburgh, and became house surgeon at St George's Hospital, prior to settling down to practice in London. When there he was mentioned by Sir Everard Home as a promising young surgeon, and nominated by him Staff surgeon to the Forces in Holland in 1799. He was only twenty-three at the time. He then went to Holland, and the following letter was written to his mother from there:—

*From* JAMES PITCAIRN *to* MRS ROBERT PITCAIRN.

MY DEAREST MUM,—I have now risked so many letters to you by private hands, that I am determined to trust only to the regular mail, which goes from here twice a-week, and which, as it comes from England as often, I am surprised I have not had more than two letters from you. Did you but know the comfort they are to me, I am sure you would write oftener.

Your last was dated the 27th of September, and with it I received one from Eliza dated the 1st inst., the most important

points in which, next to your own health, was Eliza's<sup>1</sup> marriage, which I see by the public papers had taken place. I think and hope they will be happy, and I believe if my wishes could make them so, they might be pretty secure of a tolerable share of it. Babington is certainly a man of irreproachable character, and if ever he possesses the means of rendering dear Lizzie more comfortable than their present prospects would lead one to expect, I am sure he will avail himself of it. You must by this time have heard of the unfortunate result of this expedition, in which, perhaps, the British troops have behaved with as much or even more valour than in any former campaign. The different Brigades will embark for England as soon as the Transports are ready—indeed, some are already on board—but whether the medical staff will be among the first or last, I don't know. We shall all be sad losers by our horses. No one under the rank of General is allowed to take one on board. What I shall get for my ten-guinea one I don't know. I have been offered 10 Dollars!!! but have refused it. I am conscious, without one, my health must have suffered from the fatigue, and constant wet feet which I must have been unavoidably exposed to in this wretched climate. We have had about four fine days.

A bilious attack for one day has been hitherto my only grievance as far as my health is concerned, and I adhere most strictly to Temperance as the best preventative. Even the water here is not good. I think it not unlikely I may be put upon duty in some part of England the moment I arrive. I will do it with the greatest goodwill, provided I can once more clasp you to my bosom. The days, although actually shorter than when we first arrived, seem longer and more tedious. How cheerfully shall I receive the order to embark. There will be no occasion to repeat it! I only wish that in again crossing the briny element we may have a more pleasant voyage. I am not a little hurt at William's<sup>2</sup> silence, when he knows that there is not an action of his in which I am not most interested. He cannot want subjects for a letter, and as a punishment I beg you will kiss him and the newly married couple for me—not forgetting to reserve one for your own affectionate son,

JAMES PITCAIRN.

HAYSDINGNEN, NEAR HELDER,  
*October 23rd, 1799.*

I suppose by this time you are quite comfortable at Mossops; remember me to all that are there or who come there, that enquire for me. Also to the Swaynes, and all my friends who have not forgotten there is such a human being as J. P.

<sup>1</sup> His sister.

<sup>2</sup> His brother.

When he returned from Holland he was at once sent with the Russian Contingent to Guernsey, then with the 36th Regiment to Ireland, and in 1800, ordered to embark under Sir Charles Stewart with an expedition to the Mediterranean. He wrote from Torbay the following letter to his mother as the fleet were leaving:—

LETTER OF JAMES PITCAIRN TO HIS MOTHER, on board  
H.M.S. Expedition.

TORBAY, *April 13th*, 1800.

MY DEAR MOTHER,—Lest by any accident you should hear of our little squadron being driven into this Harbour by bad weather, and suppose this vessel together with its present inhabitants may have suffered by the heavy gale we have had during the last 48 hours, I think you will feel much satisfaction in receiving a certificate from myself that we are all well.

We sailed from the Downs about 5 o'clock on Tuesday morning with an unfavourable wind, but fine weather, and should have continued to beat down the Channel tolerably well had it continued fine, in spite of bad winds, but unluckily it became foggy with heavy gales, which induced our Commodore to put into this Bay, which at present exhibits as grand a sight as any I ever witnessed of the kind—viz., the Channel Fleet, among which are 5 or 6 three-deckers. As our putting again to sea depends entirely upon the winds getting round to either the N. or N.E. or E., I can hardly expect to hear from you. With respect to the object of the Expedition, it is as great a secret as ever, not a single officer on board knowing our exact destination, although it is certain we are to go to the Mediterranean, Gibraltar being the first place of rendezvous. During the stormy weather I was a good deal affected, but am now perfectly recovered, and hope I shall not feel any more of that unpleasantest of all sicknesses, sea-sickness.

Andrews is in a vessel close alongside,—I long to see him and learn how his first voyage agrees with him. It is at present raining and blowing too hard to venture out; the moment it is fair it is my intention to pay him a visit. The number of officers of the 40th Regiment on board together with myself consist of 17, and I assure you we sit down every day to a tolerable dinner. Our stock in hand has been well laid in, each subscribing ten guineas. They all sleep in the Ward or Mess Room except myself, who, as coming last, have been obliged to swing my cot in the Cockpit; there is however one advantage attending being there, that I can “turn in,” as the sailors call it, and lay as long as



I please, whereas in the Ward-room every one is obliged to be up by 8 o'clock, and cannot go into his cot till half-past nine at night, as it is the only Room we have to sit in.

I am so anxious to hear how you are, that I wish you would take the chance of our remaining till Thursday or Friday at this Port, as by this time a letter would reach me if you wrote by Tuesday's Post, addressing it to me on board His Majesty's Ship Expedition, in Torbay. In case of our having sailed before the letter arrives, you must make some arrangements to get it returned to you, or not, as you wish. Remember me to dear Will, to whom I wrote from the Downs, and believe me, my dearest Mother,—Your ever affectionate and dutiful Son,

JAMES PITCAIRN.

To MRS PITCAIRN,  
NO. 139 JERMYN STREET, LONDON.

Pitcairn was then sent to Sir Ralph Abercrombie's force in Egypt, where he served until the end of that campaign, and received a medal. He returned to England in 1802, and was placed on the recruiting staff of Dublin, which he held until 1803. On the 22nd of October 1803, at the age of twenty-seven, he was appointed Deputy Inspector of Military Hospitals for Ireland, and the day following Deputy Inspector-General. He married, on the 24th of September 1803, at Cheshunt, Harriet, who was born Feb. 3, 1775, youngest daughter of Charles James Dalbiac, of Claramount in Hertfordshire, and Hungerford Park in Berkshire. Her mother was Mr Dalbiac's second wife (*née* Miss Anne le Bas).

The Dalbiacs were descended from an old French family: "D'Albiac, famille noble existant au 13<sup>e</sup> siècle, et qui tira son nom du Rameau Albiac situé près du chateau de Roque-laine. They were descended from the ancient French Marquises d'Albiac, who had large possessions in the south of France."

The Dalbiacs bear for arms: "Per fesse gules d'or in chief, a spur argent in base, an olive-tree eradicated and fructed proper."

They came over from France at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and the story goes that one of the family escaped to England concealed in a large hamper.

The older members of the French family were as follows,<sup>1</sup> but it is not a complete list :—

1271. Berenger d'Albiac.

1307. Raymond d'Albiac.

Gancelin d'Albiac.

Jean d'Albiac.

1370. Pierre d'Albiac.

1425. Jean d'Albiac.

1449. Beral d'Albiac.

The first who came to England was David d'Albiac, who married Jeanne Cayduo. They had two sons—

1, Scipion Dalbiac, who married Marie Durand.

2, Simon Dalbiac, married to Françoise Pellordy.

Scipion had two children—

1, James Dalbiac, married to Susan de la Porte. He was a colonel in the French army.

2, Louise, married to Jean de la Motte.

James Dalbiac and Susan de la Porte had two sons—

1, James Dalbiac, who married Elizabeth de Vismes, and had four daughters.

2, Charles James Dalbiac, of Hungerford Park and Claramount, Berkshire, who married twice—

1st, Miss de Vismes, and had one daughter, married to Peter Luard of Blyborough Hall.

Charles Dalbiac's second wife was Miss Anne le Bas, whose family also came over to England in 1685.

He had by his second wife three children—

1, Sir Charles James Dalbiac, M.P. for Ripon, who married Miss Dalton, succeeded his father in his estates, but, later on, sold Hungerford Park. Sir Charles had an only daughter, Susan Stephania, who married James Henry Robert Innes Ker, sixth Duke of Roxburghe.

2, Harriet, the only daughter of Charles Dalbiac's second wife, Miss le Bas, married Sir James Pitcairn.

3, Sir George John Dalbiac, a knight of the Guelphic Order, who married Miss Shelley. They had a son, Henry E. A. Dalbiac, married, on the 12th Aug. 1846, to Mary,

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by Colonel Philip Dalbiac.

daughter of Sir Henry Mainwaring, Bt. of Peover Hall, Knutsford. Henry Dalbiac was father of 1, Henry; 2, Charles; 3, Colonel Philip Dalbiac, other sons, and one daughter, Mary Dalbiac. Colonel Philip Dalbiac's wife is Lilian, daughter of Sir Charles Seeley, M.P.

Sir James Pitcairn had four sons and six daughters by his first wife, Harriet Dalbiac: 1, David Charles; 2, Robert; 3, William: 1, Harriet; 2, Anna Maria; 3, Elizabeth Denne; 4, Louisa; 5, Susannah; 6, Jane Home Frances: 4, James Pelham.

Sir James married, secondly, Miss Emma Pococke, and had one son, who died young, and one daughter, Emmeline, who married Mr Rice of the Indian Civil Service. She has two sons, Stanley and Frank, and three daughters living.

In 1804, 1805, and 1808, Dr James Pitcairn was deputed to superintend the extensive encampments formed on the Curragh of Kildare, under Lord Cathcart and Sir Charles Aspill, during which time, until 1815, he was in medical charge of the Connaught district of Ireland. In 1816, Pitcairn was transferred to Munster, and then to Cork. When he left Athlone he was much regretted, and was presented with the following address and a beautiful service of plate:—

At a numerous meeting of the Inhabitants of Athlone and its vicinity, the Lord Castlemaine in the chair, the following Address was unanimously agreed upon:—

THOLSEL OF ATHLONE,  
10th Aug. 1816.

To JAMES PITCAIRN, Esq., M.D., &c., &c.

SIR,—We the inhabitants of Athlone and in its vicinity at the Tholsel assembled, beg leave to express our sincere regret at your appointment to another district, and your consequent removal from the town and neighbourhood.

During a residence of twelve years amongst us, passed in the most friendly and agreeable intercourse, we witnessed your unremitting assiduity and skill, in the duties of your profession, and with admiration and gratitude, your constant and benevolent attention to the interests of the poor.

Impressed with these sentiments, we cannot suffer you to depart

from amongst us without assuring you that, wherever you may be placed, there you will be attended by our warmest wishes for your welfare, and our best thoughts will be constantly employed upon you.

Permit us to offer you, as a small token of our regard, a piece of Plate value one hundred guineas, to commemorate your residence amongst us, the recollection of which will be deeply graven on our hearts; and we trust you are assured of our being with the truest esteem,—Your affectionate friends and humble servants, The Inhabitants of Athlone and its vicinity.

(Sgd.) CASTLEMAINE, *Chairman*.

DR JAMES PITCAIRN'S ANSWER TO ADDRESS PRESENTING  
SERVICE OF PLATE.

CORK, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, 1816.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 11<sup>th</sup>, containing an address from the Town and vicinity of Athlone, couched in language that will ever make a deep impression on my heart, overrating the services which were dictated only by a wish to serve my poor neighbours, so far as my feeble powers would admit, during my leisure from my official duties; and however gratifying the task may have been to my feelings, it is doubly recompensed in those expressions of regard and affection which you have done me the honour to be the organ of, and which I assure your Lordship are truly reciprocal.

The splendid token of their esteem I shall ever preserve as the most valued gift that could be bestowed, and shall hand it down to my children, as a memento of the happiest period of my life, which has been passed with much serenity of mind, and more flattering attentions from a large circle of friends in Athlone and its vicinity, than any merits of my own could entitle me to.

With these impressions I need not add, how painful my separation has been from my friends, whose hospitality and kindness I have for so many years experienced, and whose welfare and happiness I shall always feel the deepest interest in.

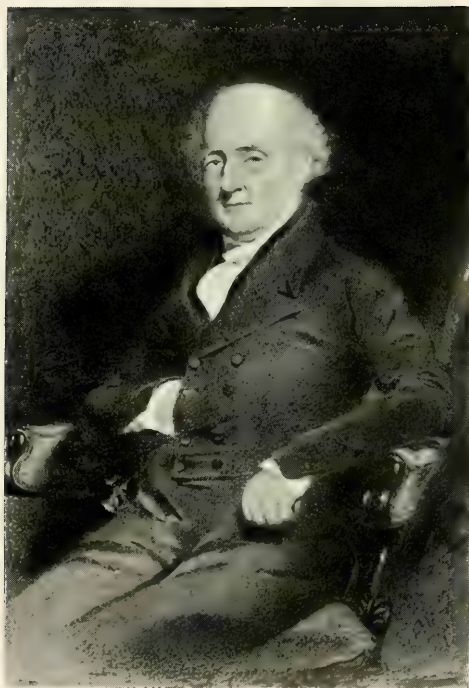
I cannot omit this opportunity of thanking your Lordship for the truly gratifying manner you have communicated the above Address, thus adding one more to the many proofs of regard which I have had the honour of receiving from yourself, and your family.

Believe me, my Lord, under all circumstances your Lordship's very faithful and obliged servant,

J. PITCAIRN,  
*D. Inspector of Hospitals.*

To the Rt. Hon. LORD CASTLEMAINE,  
Maydrum Castle,  
ATHLONE.





SIR JAMES PITCAIRN, Kt.



Sir James Pitcairn's brother-in-law, Sir Charles Dalbiac, served with distinction in the Peninsular war. He was then married, and his wife went with him. She was extremely brave, and in one of his letters to his brother George, there is an interesting account of their narrow escape from death, from a stampede of cavalry horses. I give the letter in full here, as it is also a graphic account by an eyewitness of the battle of Salamanca:—

*Letter*<sup>1</sup> *from* Lieut.-Col. DALBIAC of the 4th Regiment of Dragoons  
to his Brother, Major DALBIAC.

FLORES DI AVILA, 9 Leagues from SALAMANCA,  
on the road to MADRID, *July 24th*, 1812.

My dear Brother will be rejoiced to learn that all his Friends are safe after the glorious affair of the 22nd inst. Norcliffe [Dalton, cousin to Mrs Charles Dalbiac] was the only officer of the 4th wounded. A Musket Ball struck him on the top of his head, but Gunning kindly attended him yesterday; and tho' the wound is severe, I am happy to say he apprehends no danger whatever.

I shall now begin to tell you that on the 15th, in consequence of the enemy having shown a disposition to pass the Douro, by repairing the Bridge at Toro, and other appearances, the whole of our Army made a movement to our left to that point, when Marmont,<sup>2</sup> who had only made a feint at Toro, and collected all his Army in a large wood about half-way between that and Tordicillas, took advantage of our absence, and passed his whole force over the Bridge at that place, and the Fords between that and Pollas during the 17th and following night. It was an able manœuvre, and the best mode that could be taken to pass the River without opposition. I conceive, however, that Lord Wellington would have been highly blameable had he not moved to his left on the 15th, for had Marmont really crossed at that place, they would have been *nearer* Salamanca than La Nova del Ray Renda, and our Retreat & communications endangered, which could not be the case by passing where they did. As soon as it was ascertained that Marmont was across with his whole Force, the whole of ours moved again to the right, & the Enemy's advance was kept very gallantly in check for some hours on the morning of the 18th; by Major Bull's Troop of Horse Artillery, the Light Dragoons, Ross's Troop, and part of the Lt. Division, till a strong force of ours had reached the

<sup>1</sup> Lent to me by Sidney Luard, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> The French Commander.

village of Torricella de la Orden. As there was, however, no position near that place, Lord Wellington directed everyone to fall back upon the Heights, extending between Canizal and Fuente de la Pesra. Near the latter place the 4th Division had a smart affair with the Enemy in the afternoon, at the same time that the 3rd Dragoons had a good opportunity of shewing their steadiness in covering the Hussars and 14th L. D., who were driven back by a superior body of the enemy's Cavalry. Nothing occurred afterwards on that day. Our loss in killed and wounded was about 300, nearly two-thirds of which were Light Dragoons, and 139 horses; that of the Enemy was about 400 killed and wounded, with a Genl. of Cavalry, and 200 and odd Prisoners left in our possession. Marmont, seeing that we should offer him greater resistance than he calculated upon, gave up the idea of moving upon Fuente de la Pesra (if such was ever his intention), and made little or no movement on the 19th. Nor was ours considerable; but it having been ascertained that the Enemy were marching rather to the left, in the afternoon Lord Wellington moved to a position having the village of Nellusa on his left, and facing nearly to the eastward; and at daybreak on the morning of the 20th the two Armies were drawn up in order of Battle about one league apart. Many expected an attack, which Lord Wellington awaited till 7, when Marmont had recourse to the same plan as before—moved off from his left with a view to turn our right,—and carried his Army that day 8 leagues, halting on the Heights above the Torrnes near Huesta, 2 leagues from Salamanca. Of course we moved at the same hour from our right, and the 6th Division reached in the evening the pass of Aldea Lingua, also on the Torrnes, and interposed between the Enemy and Salamanca. My Sue<sup>1</sup> saw the march of both Armies during the whole Day. The remainder of our Troops, by 8 o'clock in the morning of the 21st, were in bivouac on the banks of the River near the Town, and *à portee* to the former position N.E. of Salamanca. The Enemy was quiet till 2 in the afternoon, when his whole force was in motion from his left, and crossed the Torrnes at Huesta. The greater part of ours was over by 9 o'clock at night, and 2 or 3 Divisions moved up to the Heights in front of the Enemy's Line of March, interposing between him and the Town of Salamanca, and near to the spot where Marmont met with so signal a defeat the following day.

An alarming circumstance happened to our Brigade on the evening of the 21st. Having crossed the River, we halted for the night near Sta. Martha, about a mile from Salamanca. The Brigade was formed in contiguous close Columns of Squadrons, horses linked, the Men

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Dalbiac's wife, Susan Dalton of Sleningford Park.



laying at their heads on heaps of straw; at this time the appearance of the Heavens portended a dreadful storm. Lord Edwd. Somerset, Sue, and I were talking about 50 yards in front of the Regiment when a flash of Lightning obliged us to clap our hands to our eyes as if to preserve our sight. This Flash was so vivid and so extended that it struck one man of the 4th, and set fire to some Rum which Lieut. *Tongue* was pouring out between Capt. *Spedding* and Lieut. *Gregory*, and to some straw in the front of the 5th Dragoons. We had scarcely recovered our sight when I observed the whole Brigade of riderless horses *advancing to the charge*. The effect of the Lightning was such, added to a peal of Thunder which burst out at the same moment over our Heads, that every horse and every man was appalled; but instantly aware of what had happened, I had fortunately the presence of mind to seize Susan by the arm and bear her off behind a Gun, a Brigade of 9-pounders having halted for the night within 30 yards of where we then stood. We had scarcely reached our Post when the horses came curling round the gun, the same as you have seen the Flanks of a Squadron, when the centre has halted suddenly. The remainder of the Guns brought up the 3rd and 4th Dragoons; but the 5th, who were on the right, where there was nothing to check them, broke away to a considerable distance, and near 30 horses were missing when we moved on the 22nd. 20 have been since recovered. The poor men fared much worse than we did, but not so seriously as might have been expected from 3 Squadrons of horses having gone over the greater part of them whilst asleep on the ground. About 100 of the Brigade were hurt more or less, but not above 20 disabled and sent to the rear.

By 10 in the morning of the 22nd, the greater part of our Troops had reached some heights nearly E. and W., and 5 miles from Salamanca, to the southward of it. Near to the small village of Aripiles are two very commanding Heights, isolated from each other (at a mile distant), as well as from the Positions which each Party had taken up in the Rear of its respective Height. The position of our left rather commanded the Enemy's right, and their left materially commanded our right. In point of Position, therefore, no two Heroes were more fairly pitted; nor do I believe that any two Armies ever entered the Field upon more equal Terms in point of numbers. I should say that the Allies, including Don Carlos' Infantry, were 1000 or 1500 stronger than the Enemy; but the difference was more than compensated by the number and weight of the Enemy's Artillery. We had not more than 50 pieces—Marmont 70 and upwards. There were various movements on both sides during the day, principally consisting of a Cannonade which Marmont had recourse to upon every occasion since he crossed the

Douro, (evidently shy of coming to close Quarters), and fully confident in his own opinion that he should manœuvre us back to Portugal. Under cover of this cannonade he continued during the day extending his Infantry and Artillery to his left, but by 3 or 4 o'clock he had carried this joke too far. About that time it was a fine sight to see Lord Wellington, attended by a single A.D.C., advancing to the right of our position, just in front of where the 4th Dragoons were standing, and having reconnoitred the Enemy as the latter was passing his troops to the left, determine in an *instant* to turn him on that Flank. From the disposition it was necessary to make, it was five o'clock before the 3rd Division fired the 1st shot. The movements, however, of our Troops were so managed, that I am confident the Enemy only considered them as parries to his own, till the moment the attack commenced, which it did as soon as the Head of the 3rd Division were sufficiently advanced to carry the right shoulders forward in the direction of the Enemy's Flank. The Enemy threw out his skirmishers to cover the changing of his Front, with a Brigade to receive the attack; but they were instantly driven back upon the body, whilst Major Bull, who had taken up a most judicious point, plied the French Brigade with shrapnels, and no Guns were ever better served. The 88th, which had now advanced at treble quick time, giving the *real Connaught schreech*, drove the Enemy over the Heights with the point of the Bayonet. Now came up Le Merchant's Brigade; the 4th Dragoons leading upon the left, and the whole entering the Interval between the left of the advance of the 3rd Division, and the right of the Line attacking to the Front. We first encountered the 66th French Regiment of 3 Battalions, each battalion with an extent of Front equal to a Wing, the other wing covering those in the rear. They gave us their fire, but so ill directed that not a man or horse was touched. We were through them in an instant, *and the whole* were either killed, wounded, or taken. Whilst this passed, the 3rd and 5th Dragoons had administered the same Fare to the remainder of the French Brigade, which had been opposed to the 3rd Division, and which were then retreating in quick step close upon the right of the 4th Dragoons. These operations occasioned *no* halt, the Prisoners being left for the Infantry to secure. The Brigade pushed on at a gallop, and next fell in with a column of about 6000 Infantry, which I take to have been the support of the 3 Battalions first charged by the 4th Drgs. This Column gave us their fire, and brought down some men and horses, but instantly shared the fate of their comrades. By this time, owing to our having been under the necessity of changing our front, by carrying the right shoulders forward, owing to the ground having narrowed upon us, and to the partial thinning of our ranks, 3 Regiments became a good deal mixed, & in many

parts, it was 3rd and 4th, 5th and 3rd—still, however, preserving a firm and regular Front, and in a solid, impenetrable mass without intervals. This circumstance, which in any other instance would have proved highly prejudicial to Cavalry, was of the most essential benefit. The attacks were all made in one of the evergreen Oak Woods you have often seen in this Country, & where the regular advance of a Squadron must be impeded.

This had little effect however upon the Brigade, which, continuing to advance on the Gallop, next encountered a Brigade of the Enemy's Infantry formed in Column *serré*, and drawn up under cover of some Oaks to receive us. When within 20 yards they poured in a most tremendous fire. Here fell our gallant General, having set a noble example of Intrepidity to his Brigade. Here also Capt. White, our A. Q. M. G., received a mortal wound & also Col. Elley a slight one, and here were brought to the ground one 3rd of the Brigade by the fall of horse or rider, the loss of either, as you know, rendering the other unserviceable. The remainder, however, of the Brigade reached the Enemy's Column in an instant, which being most vigorously charged, faced about. We had now nothing to do but to take Prisoners *ad libitum*, and I do hope as few were put to the sword as circumstances rendered safe, and of course justifiable. Lord Edwd. Somerset, however, having spied 5 Guns on the left, separated as soon as possible with the right Squadron in which your Nephew, J. Luard, commanded a Division, and charging, took the whole of them. In the meantime I got together about 30 Files, and following the wake of the Enemy's Column kept crying, "*Bas vos armes, vite en arrière ou tous seront tailler en pièces!*" I was even *cheerfully* obeyed, and more than once thanked by the French Officers for the manner in which the Prisoners were treated. After this, we could not collect above 3 Squadrons to advance out of the Brigade, & it was no longer prudent to do so, the 5th Division and others having commenced the attack upon the main Post to our left Flank; and many of the Cannon shot, both of Friends and Enemys, passing over our heads. I flatter myself that the old Heavies had their share, indeed I believe Lord Wellington and all the Army will admit, that altho' the Infantry had the tougher job in their subsequent attack upon Marmont's central Height, that the Army was indebted that day to Le Merchant's Brigade for nearly the whole of the Prisoners. Some of our success may fairly be attributed to the panic occasioned to the Enemy in finding his left so suddenly turned, and the extraordinary combination of the Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery at that point. We commenced the attack about 5, in about 40 minutes afterwards our Brigade had defeated all the Infantry opposed to them, & taken 5 Guns at the distance of near



3 Miles from where the 3rd Division fired the first shot. By 7 the Enemy was driven from his main Position in the Centre, and after an hour had quitted every one of them. Had there been 4 hours more daylight, I do not believe that 5000 of the enemy would have crossed the Torrnes. So much for this Man of manœuvres, who boasted that he would soon "*éloigner* the British from Castille," that "Lord Wellington was without enterprise, & that he would manœvre him back to the Frontiers of Portugal."

The day after the Battle, the Brigade of heavy Germans came up with a column of the Enemy's Infantry drawn up at the foot of a hill in front of Tordillas ready to receive them. The Germans charged, killed and wounded many, & took the rest Prisoners. A more gallant thing was never attempted. I calculate that this Promenade of Marmont has cost him 14,000 men. On such occasion our loss must be severe, but I trust it will come under 3,500. The Enemy is moving upon Vallalodid, in which direction we shall follow him to-morrow. My dear Susan during the fight was posted on a small Height in sight of the Regiment, saw the attack commence, the advance of the 4th to the Charge, and heard all the dreadful din that ensued. I fear it was 9 o'clock before she knew I was safe, & she did not reach the ground where we were afterwards posted till 2 o'clock in the morning. About 6, Norcliffe was brought in severely wounded with a musket ball in the head, but Gunning, who kindly attended him, apprehends no danger. My Sue took him into Salamanca, got him a good Billet, bathed his wound, & then delivered him over to the care of John Luard, who was ordered to collect the wounded upon the Field of Battle, & to arrange matters respecting the wounded Men & horses of our Brigade. Susan then left Salamanca, and travelling all night, fell in with me at 7 in the morning near Tordillas, and we reached this place, 2 leagues in front of Penaranda, by 12.

Colonel Dalbiac and his sister Harriet<sup>1</sup> had soon to bear the great grief of losing their mother, who died in 1819. It was a sad blow.

*From Sir CHARLES DALBIAC to JAMES PITCAIRN.*<sup>2</sup>

EXETER, 24th August 1819.

MY DEAREST PITCAIRN,—I feel very anxious to hear how your dear Wife bore the melancholy Intelligence of our irreparable Loss. It would give me much Satisfaction if I could send you a pleasant Account of mine. Her Spirits have certainly rallied—but her

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Pitcairn's wife.

<sup>2</sup> Canon Pitcairn's Family Papers.





SIR CHARLES DALBIAC, K.C.B.



Health and Strength have sadly given way, since the painful Event, which released her from the daily fatigue and anxiety with which she had to contend for so many weeks.

The last sad Duties were performed on the 20th, when my beloved Parent was deposited *within* the Church at Dawlish, which G. and I thought a proper respect, at a strange place, and we have ordered a small plain marble to mark the spot, and the Day of her Decease, all which we are sure our dear Sister will approve, altho' it will (with other Circumstances, such as burying in Lead, an exorbitant Demand from the Minister to bury *within* the Church, and to put up a monument therein, &c.) swell the Funeral Expenses to more than we had anticipated. I enclose you herewith a brief Statement of my Mother's Will, also a rough Estimate of her Bequests, and another of her probable effects. Unless anything unknown or unforeseen should occur, there will be an overplus of about — to divide between her 3 Children. We shall be most happy to receive any Wishes or Suggestions from you, and my Dear Sister. And if you require any explanation, other than what I may here offer, upon other Points, remember that it is my wish as well as my Duty to reply to them.

I cannot speak of my poor Mother's apparel, but the Table and House Linen (after deducting what is specially bequeathed) must be rather considerable—sufficient I should hope to last you a *Great Number* of years, unless any of it should be materially damaged by laying idle for 10 years. You will of course be particular in communicating your directions upon these Points.

I heard from Northampton a few Days ago, all well, but they complain of not having *had a word* from you since you reached Ireland.

Should you see Colonel Hodder, pray assure him that I feel under much obligation for his kindness in allowing his Bugler at Fermoy to enlist into the 2nd Lt. Dragoons. I understand he is something extraordinary.

Tell the Turners with our kindest Regards that we were much delighted to hear the Colonel continued on the Staff. He was the only man (not *medical*) on the Staff of Ireland that I felt anxious about, tho' I must say that our Friend Doyle has been shamefully treated, for when a man has received Staff pay for 22 years without Interruption, he has a *right to consider it as an Annuity for Life*.

There will be a tremendous *Disembrogation* from the Government House at Plymouth Dock, in the Course of this week, which is perhaps one of the most Liberal Establishments for a General Officer in England. It has for some time past been occupied by General Browne, his Wife, 2 full-grown Daughters, Sir Orford Gordon, who married another daughter, and 3 Children, the General's Son, his

Wife and Child, and if you take into Consideration the *usual Concomitants* on these occasions of men and maids, Footmen and Soldiers' Wives, orderly Sergeants and orderly Corporals (not to say a word of *Dragoons*) with Stable equipage and equipment, you may form some Conception of the Scene.

Tell your Wife and Children that we love them tenderly, and believe me ever, My dear Pitcairn,—Your faithfully attached Friend and Brother,

J. CHARLES DALBIAC.

General Hujoium was wonderfully pleased with his Visit to the Regiment, and (between ourselves) well he might. We are to be "*Light all over*," except our *Characters*, on 1st May next!

*From* Sir J. CHARLES DALBIAC, Exeter, *to* HARRIET PITCAIRN, Cork.

EXETER, 21st September 1819.

MY DEAREST SISTER,—I have replied to most parts of your last letter, in mine to Pitcairn. But I wish to mention to you that I have now got thro' the whole of the sad duty that lately devolved upon me. The monument which I ordered has been erected in Dawlish Church immediately above where the remains of our revered parent are deposited. It is a plain white marble, mounted on a black ground. I send you the Inscription, which, in a place where she was not known, I thought could not be too short and simple. I shall be glad to hear that you agree with me. —I am ever, Your affectionate Friend and Brother,

J. CH. DALBIAC.

"Sacred to the Memory of Mrs ANNE DALBIAC, Relict of CHS. DALBIAC, Esqre., late of Margate, and formerly of Hungerford Park, in the Co. of Berks, who departed this Life on the 12th Day of August 1819, in the 74th year of her age.

"Her 2 Sons and Daughter caused this Stone to be erected—a feeble memorial of her Virtues, and of their Affection."

*From* Sir CHARLES DALBIAC, Croydon, *to* Sir JAMES PITCAIRN, Cork, on the trial of Queen Caroline.

CROYDON, 3rd September 1820.

MY DEAR PITCAIRN,—My Brother, who is now here, desires to be most kindly and affectionately remembered. He came from M. Wilks to see an Inspection of our 6 Troops that are in this neighbourhood, yesterday morning; and proceeds to-morrow early to Barnet Fair to buy Welsh Cattle. The little man is as round as a barrel, and in great heart about his Hops, which I believe are





HARRIET DALBIAC,  
WIFE OF SIR JAMES PITCAIRN.  
1804.



COLONEL ROBERT PITCAIRN,  
SON OF SIR JAMES PITCAIRN.  
1828.



very promising. He expects to clear about £550, from about 11 acres, and God grant it! I fear I shall be delayed from proceeding Northward more by the Sieur Wilks than by any other circumstance. I understand from George<sup>1</sup> that he is so confused with our Concerns that he is commencing the whole account *de novo*, and cannot yet say when he shall hope to have a meeting upon the occasion. I shall not wait for the gentleman a single day, if he is not ready when I have settled all military matters, and that we are no longer detained by the Queen's Business. And as I am under an Engagement to buy 17 Troop horses in the North, about the first week in October, you may address me at Sleningsford after that period.

I wish from my heart that this nasty Trial<sup>2</sup> was ended. *No good* can possibly arise, and it serves to keep up the irritation that has hung upon the minds of the lower orders for some time. The opinion is that the Attorney-General will have closed his evidence that he means to bring forward, towards the end of the present week, after which there will be an adjournment for 2 months at least for the Queen to prepare her Witnesses, &c. In this case my 6 Troops that are hereby, will no doubt proceed to Canterbury, where the 2 from Devon have already arrived, and we should then be brought up to the Vicinity of the Metropolis, at the time that the Lords were about to pass their opinion. No disposition to riot has manifested itself, nor have we had anything to do with guarding the Peace of the City, except sending a Captain's Piquet of 64 mounted men every third day, to the riding School at Pimlico, where they remain 24 hours as a matter of precaution. Last Monday the Duke of York walked quietly in by himself, and made a most minute examination of every man and horse, and nothing could be more flattering or satisfactory than his encomiums. He said he had seen *no such* horses, and asked how we managed to have them in such extraordinary fine condition. I believe H.R.H. thought it was a *picked* Piquet, which was not the case, for he again popped in on Thursday, when the same approbation was expressed as before.

General Hujoum has also been up to pay us a visit, and saw my 6 Troops in the Field yesterday morning, with which he was amazingly pleased indeed. Before I have done with the Regiment, let me request you to do all you can to have Pender taken off our strength, that I may supply his place with an effective recruit. I have heard nothing of him except from yourself.

Assure my dear sister and all your flock of my tender affection, and believe me,—Yours very faithfully, J. CH. DALBIAC.

<sup>1</sup> Sir George Dalbiac, his brother.

<sup>2</sup> Trial of Queen Caroline.

In 1829 there was the first marriage in Sir James's family, when his daughter, Harriet Dalbiac, was married. The notice in the paper says:—

On the 29th of September 1829, at Cork, on Saturday morning, by the Rev. Henry Brougham, Rector of Tallow, Pelham Babington, Esq., of Blessington Street, Dublin, was married to Harriet Dalbiac, born at Athlone, 20th of March 1807, eldest daughter of James Pitcairn, Esquire, M.D., South Mall, Cork.

She died the 14th of December 1832, when her child was born, who also died. The following year, in July 1830, at the same church and by the same clergyman, "Pelham Babington's sister, Frances, eldest daughter of Thomas Richard Babington, Esquire, barrister-at-law, was married to Thomas Fleming, Esquire, second son of Beecher Fleming, Esquire, of New Court, in the County of Cork." The Babingtons were children of Sir James Pitcairn's sister Eliza.

Louisa, fourth daughter of Sir James Pitcairn, was born at Athlone, April the 19th, 1814, and married, on the 5th of October 1830, when she was only sixteen, Thomas Rowley, Lieutenant of the 65th Regiment, second son of Thomas Toler Rowley of Maperath, County Meath. She had four sons—

- 1, Thos. Toler.
- 2, Frederick Pelham (who has now taken the surname of Toler added to Rowley).
- 3, James Pitcairn.
- 4, Edward William, born 25th of September 1840.

On the 21st of March 1832 another of Sir James Pitcairn's daughters was married, at Christ Church, Cork, by the Rev. J. N. Lombard: "Henry Augustus West, 12th Foot, third son of Lieut.-Colonel West (late 3 Guards, Lieutenant-Governor of Languard Fort), to Elizabeth Denne, third daughter of James Pitcairn." She was born at Athlone on the 18th of March 1811, and was therefore twenty-one when she married. She had three sons and one daughter—

I. Henry James Pelham, born at Gibraltar 11th of January 1833; he married and had three sons and two daughters—namely:



1, Henry, barrister-at-law, married, still living.

2, Hubert, solicitor, married and died.

3, Arthur, *d. s. p.*

1, Annie, married to Mr Aman, and has a boy and girl.

2, Charlotte, married to Mr Callender.

II. Charles William West, who was born at sea the 6th of April 1834, and died unmarried.

III. Harriet Pitcairn West, married to the Rev. William Gorman, Archdeacon of Ossory, and Rector of Thomastown, County Kilkenny, and has two children living—

1, Amy, married to Rev. Mr Pott. They have one boy, Charles.

2, William, Major East Surrey Regt., married and has children.

IV. Pelham, born the 20th of November 1836, died 24th of April 1837, his father dying twelve days afterwards, on the 6th of May, at Cork, leaving a young widow only twenty-seven years old. Mr West was a very lovable man, much liked by his brother officers, an excellent draughtsman. He published a book of his sketches in Gibraltar. The maps are beautifully drawn.

David Charles, Sir James Pitcairn's eldest son, was born on the 26th of October 1804. He was appointed to the 83rd Regiment the 10th of August 1832, to the 15th Hussars the 30th of May 1834. He married, on the 3rd of August 1833, Mary, eldest daughter of William Westropp, of Roxborough, Limerick, and niece of Viscount Guillamore.

David Pitcairn was stationed on the river Gambia; he died of fever the 22nd December 1849, leaving no children. His wife survived him many years.

William, the third son of Sir James, was born at Athlone, 17th November 1812. He entered the Madras Artillery, and sailed for India on the 22nd August 1829. He married, on the 8th October 1835, Emily, youngest daughter of Charles Maidmount, of the East India Co. Civil Service. He had one child, who died nine days old. William Pitcairn died himself of fever six weeks after the death of his child, on the 28th of May 1837.

In 1832 there was a dreadful outbreak of cholera. There

was a Board of Health Meeting at the Mansion House, on the 18th of April, of all the Faculty. Upwards of 700 were present, and Dr Pitcairn was in the Chair. He made an excellent speech. A Letter or notice was addressed by them to the Mayor, with suggestions of preventions against cholera, signed by—

Charles Daly, M.D.

J. Pitcairn, M.D.

John Beamish, M.D.

James Willes, M.D.

By the strange irony of fate, Mrs Pitcairn was attacked by this dreadful disease, and died, after twenty-four hours' illness, on the 11th day of July 1832. So great was the dread of contagion, that her husband and her friends had to lay her in the grave, and even dig it, so great was the scare at the time. On her tomb is the following inscription:—

Sacred to the memory of HARRIET, the beloved wife of JAMES PITCAIRN, Esq., M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, who departed this life on the 11th of July 1832, in the 58th year of her age.

Her husband and children were devotedly attached to her, and deeply mourned her loss, which was irreparable.

In 1835 another of Sir James Pitcairn's daughters was married.

She was his second daughter, Anna Maria, born at Athlone, 5th day of March 1810. She became the wife of James Lane, Esq., youngest son of James Lane of Riverston. They were married on the 5th of May 1835, and had two children—

1, Harriet Rebecca, born the 18th of June 1837, who married Captain Henry Weston, and had—1, Annie; 2, Maria; 3, Henry (married); 4, George—all living.

2, the Rev. James W. Lane. He was educated at Winchester, and at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and is the Rector of Redruth, Cornwall.

He married Augusta Persse, of Roxborough, Co. Galway, and has Hugh Percy, and other sons, and one daughter, Ruth.

His mother, Mrs Lane, was a very good and deeply religious woman. A most devoted sister and second mother

to her young brothers and sisters, who were left so early motherless. They all held her in great respect and love. She died very suddenly, on the 19th of May 1865.

Susannah, the 5th daughter of Sir James, born at Athlone, 10th of August 1815, died 1st October 1835, aged twenty, and was buried at Christ Church, Cork.

In 1837 Dr Pitcairn received the honour of knighthood from the hands of Lord Normanby, in Dublin, on account of his professional services, and in 1847 Sir James was appointed Director-General of the Medical Department for Ireland, the duties of which he performed without interruption until 1852, when he retired from the Service, and was presented with a service of plate by his medical friends.

He had seen much trouble, he had lost his beloved wife and four children before 1837. He was a religious man, with a most cheerful disposition, very pleasant and tactful, and much beloved by every one with whom he came in contact, from his unfailing courtesy, and real goodness of heart.

To his children he was always a most kind, just, and indulgent Father; and if he had to reprove them he did it in such a pleasant way that it was more effectual than if they had been scolded. My father used to tell us how when a little boy he sometimes put his elbows on the table at dinner. Instead of scolding him, his father simply turned to the butler: "A pillow for Master Jacko," and down would go the elbows like a shot.

"Leave a little for the Duke of Rutland's family, boys" (Manners), he used to say, if they at dinner were inclined to be greedy. They were taught to take off their hats if a funeral passed, and to say "Sir" to an old man. On Christmas Day he always gave two toasts: First, "To absent friends," and, secondly, "Here's a health to all those that we love; here's a health to all those that love us; here's a health to all those, that love them that love those, that love them, that love those, that love us."

At Cork, where he lived for thirty-one years, he had a delightful circle of friends. He was of such a kindly nature himself, that he loved to be surrounded with young folks,

and he was most hospitable, perpetually inviting the officers of the different regiments who were quartered at Cork, or who were embarking or disembarking at Queenstown.

He led a bright and cheery life. He rarely was without friends or relations to dinner, or dining himself elsewhere, either at Colonel Despard's or Dr Woodroffe's, Colonel Turner's, Colonel and Mrs Hodder's, Mr Tighe's, the Phipps, Slades, Wingfields, Major Galwey's, Colonel Farquharson's, at Spike, Coolmore, &c.<sup>1</sup>

They were full of fun in Sir James's circle of friends, as the following Invitation and Answer will show:—

*BY PERMISSION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL  
SIR JAMES PITCAIRN.*

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On Wednesday next, at half-past five o'clock, His Majesty's servants will perform the serio-comic Opera of "*Three Weeks after Marriage.*" During this entertainment the celebrated Cathedral Service will be exhibited, and Sacrifices offered to Hymen by the entire Company.

*Dramatis Personæ* (invited).

*Principal Performers*—

Dr and Mrs BULL, who have kindly offered their Services for the benefit of Dr and Mrs TOWNSEND. The Company will be entertained by a solo on the knife and fork by Sir JAMES PITCAIRN, and a Speech by JOHN DILLON CROKER, Esq., who has volunteered his well-known powers of loquacity, to be assisted by the following chorus—

RICHARD EXHAM.  
G. K. PAINE.

The whole to conclude with the Farce of "*No Song, No Supper.*"

*Performers*—

Mr W. PITCAIRN.  
Miss PITCAIRN.  
Miss S. PITCAIRN.  
Misses EXHAM.  
X. Y. Z., &c.

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<sup>1</sup> Diary of Sir James Pitcairn, 1839.



The above notification was sent to Sir James, in consequence of Dr and Mrs Townsend having purchased a handsome Dinner Service, the Devices upon which represented the Cathedrals of England.

Pitcairn alludes to it as follows:—

The Entertainment was especially intended as a Compliment to Dr and Mrs Bull, then recently married. She was possessed of a good deal of landed property in the vicinity of Youghal, and was supposed to have refused several very good offers of marriage, and was then fast approaching that time of life when offers of that kind are seldom made, though the marriage turned out a very happy one.

I received the Invitation to meet them, and as it was couched in somewhat Theatrical Terms, I thought I could not do better than acknowledge its receipt in a similar strain, of which the following is a correct copy—affording me a great deal of amusement, although I had no small difficulty in finding out appropriate names of Theatrical Pieces to suit the Parties engaged. My answer was directed to Mrs Townsend, as the Manager of the Entertainment, which was to Tea and Supper, and which went off most happily.

On the outside of this is a memorandum in Sir James Pitcairn's handwriting:—

My letter to Mrs Townsend, with the Theatrical application of Mrs Bull's qualities as a recent Bride from the Country.

*Reply.*

DEAR MANAGER,—I confess I am not obliged to you for giving me a solo at the *Rehearsal* on Wednesday next at half-past five, though it is the only way to avoid *Cross Purposes*.

I have heard that all the *World's a Stage*, and in the end will prove the *Road to Ruin*, whichever way the *Wheel of Fortune* may turn.

To the *Country Girl* it will not be denied that *Matrimony* was an agreeable *Surprise*, but probably she will find out if her husband plays the *Inconstant* that it was a *new way to pay old debts*. However, *every man has his Faults*. Let the *Wonder* cease therefore if it turns out that the namesake of *John Bull* differs from the *Man of the World*, and proves himself anything but the *Hypocrite*, for as it was not a *Clandestine Marriage* no one has a right to ask *Who's the Dupe*. *Rule a Wife and have a Wife*; therefore I hope it will be the maxim of the *Doctor*, and the

*Apothecary* may trust to *the Chapter of Accidents*, and, if no better, *marry all for Love*.

*The Heiress* has fallen to our Friend's share, and if he has only adopted *the Way of the World*, *who's to blame*. *Love in a Village* is a conspicuous thing, and therefore one is not surprised at their spending *the Honeymoon* where no one could say *He's much to blame*.

Perhaps it might have been the *Belle's Stratagem* to make it a *Tale of Mystery*, in such a way as to defy *the World* to say, *There goes all in the wrong*.

Be that as it may, however, she will naturally exclaim, after all the experience she has had, *Better late than never*, though probably from the strength of her purse all might have been attributed to her not attending to the vulgar adage of *know your own mind*.

But if Report speaks truly, she must have been a *mourning Bride* long ago, and the consequence of her *Indecision* was that *she would and she would not*, and thus continued in that single state of Blessedness which some people affect to prefer.

Thus, then, you see *The way to get married* is simple enough, particularly if you happen to have a Prize of 2. 3. 5. 8. at your disposal in the Funds.

Report says there will be *the Devil to pay* at Dr Townsend's on Wednesday next, at half-past five, at which you may depend on my being punctual, though the first Act will not commence until *my Spouse and I* arrive.

*The Juveniles* will make their appearance at 8, and for the rest of the Performance you must apprise us through the Bill of the Day.—Yours, dear Manager,

J. P., *Solo*.

From HIS SON JAMES, WHEN A LITTLE BOY AT SCHOOL,  
to HIS FATHER.

Feb. 15th.

MY DEAR FATHER,—The kindness of your letter yesterday could not have been more duly appreciated by any one more than by me, both on account of its truth and the approving manner with regard to me; and be assured, my dearest Father, that the confidence which I am very happy to find I have deserved (or you would not place it in me) shall not be misplaced, and that my every endeavour shall be to forward your wishes in the smallest trifles, and in the most perfect manner I possibly can. . . .

I received the cake and oranges, and was exceedingly much obliged. If you cannot find the little knife, buy a new Bradford large and small bladed knife, and I will give you the money, as I really feel the loss of one very greatly.

Thank Lizzy for her very nice letter, and William the same, and tell Annie I am sorry to hear her head incapacitated her from writing. Give best love to Sue, Bob, and all at home, and say I will write to the girls next time.—Believe me, dear Father, Your affectionate son,  
JAMES PITCAIRN.

Send the knife if possible by return of Post, with a wax candle.  
—J. P. [A thorough schoolboy's letter.]

Sir James was very thoughtful and kind to the private soldiers who, under his care, were embarking for foreign service. It is told of him that over and over again, they would be seen standing outside his house, where he had hot coffee and refreshments given to them if it were cold or wet.

In 1838 Sir James Pitcairn gave up wearing powder, "for the first time" (he says in his *Diary*) "for forty years." In 1847 he was appointed Inspector-General of Hospitals. In 1852 he retired, and was presented with a splendid service of plate. The following is the account in the newspaper about the Presentation:—

#### TESTIMONIAL TO SIR JAMES PITCAIRN.

On Saturday a numerous meeting of the Medical officers of the Army, quartered in and near Dublin, was held at the Medical Board, to present to Sir James Pitcairn, M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals, a splendid service of plate, upon his retirement from the service, when the following address was read by Dr Carter, the senior Surgeon present :—

*To SIR JAMES PITCAIRN, M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals.*

SIR,—After a period of service of upwards of fifty years, you have retired from the Medical Department of the Army.

The urbanity and courteous bearing which you ever displayed towards all under your superintendence, renders it incumbent upon us now to convey to you our warmest sentiments of respect and esteem.

We do not upon this occasion offer any eulogy upon your official life: such we feel to be unnecessary. Your public character is too well known. We gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to testify to your private worth. To tell you that your personal kindness has generated feelings amongst the Medical Officers of the

Army, such as are not expressed even by the words respect and esteem, but are also implied by those of affection and regard. These are what we would now offer; these are what we would wish you to accept (together with the accompanying service of plate), believing that they are not presented as a mere matter of form upon your retirement, or as any ordinary compliment paid at the close of a long career. No, Sir! We would wish you to feel that you possess the individual love, friendship, and regard of every man whose name is attached to this address.

Cordially praying that the evening of your days may be passed as tranquilly and as happily as the lot of man permits, we affectionately bid you farewell.—Remaining, Sir, Your attached Friends.

In reply to this Sir James spoke in the following words:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have to thank you very deeply for the compliment paid to me to-day. It *is* difficult, upon an occasion such as this, to express what the heart feels. My sensations are those of pleasure, mixed with pain—of pleasure in looking back upon the many associations connected with the service, and those with whom it has been my good fortune to serve,—of pain in reflecting that at my time of life, future friendships must be limited indeed. You have been pleased to give me credit for the exercise of courteous bearing towards those placed under my superintendence. A long period in an administrative capacity, from 1803, has assured me that authority and courtesy should ever go hand in hand. In a lengthened career, such as that I have passed through, there must necessarily have been some occasions when I was called upon to censure individuals. I have ever made it my endeavour to do so in the way that I considered would best answer public ends—not by irritating feelings, but by appealing to the man. Experience tells me that in this I have not erred. If in the exercise of my duties I have been fortunate enough to gain your affection and regard, I can with truth say that the feeling has been reciprocal—that you have equally secured mine.

I have said that future life for me must be short, but to the close I shall look back upon to-day. I would wish to have thanked you more fully, but I find it hard to speak when the coming word is to be "*farewell*." Excuse me, gentlemen, from saying more than, God bless and protect you all!

In November 1858 Sir James was taken very ill indeed. He felt his end approaching, and wrote a pathetic letter to his brother William and his son James Pelham Pitcairn, bidding all at Longsight Rectory good-bye:—



*From* Sir JAMES PITCAIRN (his farewell Letter) *to* his Brother,  
WILLIAM PITCAIRN, and the Rev. JAMES PITCAIRN, his  
Son, The Rectory, Longsight, Manchester.

1858.

MY DEAR WILLIAM AND JAMES,—I can write but little—that  
is—whatever the next few days may end in—God bless you both,  
and Emily and the dear children.

I take leave of you and them with the most ardent Love and  
Affection, in the hopes of a happy meeting again in Eternity, and  
the firm security of our dear Saviour Christ.—Ever thine most  
affectionately,  
J. PITCAIRN.

*To* the Inhabitants of  
The Rectory of Longsight.

He died on the 12th of January 1859, in the eighty-  
third year of his age, beloved and revered by his children,  
his friends, and all who knew him. The writer of this  
history has been told by very many that he had not an  
enemy in the world, and that every one acquainted with  
him loved him.

His son, James Pelham Pitcairn, wrote the following  
Epitaph, which was placed on his grave:—

Sacred  
to the Memory of  
Sir JAMES PITCAIRN, M.D.,  
Inspector-General of Hospitals,  
Who died in Dublin,  
the 12th day of January 1859,  
in the 83rd year of his age.  
He was beloved as a husband, a father,  
and a friend :  
and having for fifty-three years  
faithfully discharged  
the Duties of the Public Service,  
He has gone down to the grave in peace, and  
in sure and certain hope of  
the Resurrection to Eternal Life.

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“With Christ, which is far better.”

*Philippians i. 23.*

FROM THE 'LANCET.'

Obituary of Sir James Pitcairn, Inspector-General of Hospitals:—

We have this day to record the death of another member of our profession known to many, both in public and in private life.

Sir James Pitcairn, Inspector-General of Hospitals, who died at his residence, No. 3 Haddington Road, Dublin, on the 12th inst., than whom, as the Metropolitan morning paper announces, "few have lived more generally beloved," "or few have died more sincerely regretted." Sir James Pitcairn was born on the 18th of July 1776, and was the eldest son of the Rev. Robert Pitcairn of Balliol College, Oxford, Vicar of Englishcombe, Somerset, and Minister of Spring Gardens Chapel, London. Sir James himself was educated in London, and afterwards studied for the medical profession at St George's Hospital, he and the present Sir Benjamin Brodie being fellow-pupils of Sir Everard Home. His family were originally Scotch, residing at Pitcairn and Forthar in Fifeshire, whence sprang the two Doctors Pitcairn, one of whom was President of the Royal College of Physicians in London. He subsequently graduated in medicine at Edinburgh, and then returned to fill the office of House Surgeon to St George's Hospital, prior to settling in practice in London.

Whilst so engaged, Sir Everard Home was applied to by the Commander-in-Chief to select one or two young surgeons of more than ordinary promise for special service, and he nominated Mr Pitcairn, who was at once gazetted as staff surgeon, and despatched to Holland. He served there until the termination of the campaign, and was then employed in the Russian Contingent, at Guernsey. In 1800 he proceeded to Ireland in charge of the 36th Regt., but was almost immediately ordered to embark with an expedition to the Mediterranean under Sir J. Stewart, and thence was sent to join Sir Ralph Abercrombie's force in Egypt, where he served until the termination of that campaign.

After returning to England in 1802, he was placed in charge of the recruiting staff of Dublin, which he held until 1803, when, in anticipation of invasion by France, he was selected to organise the medical arrangements which it was deemed necessary to have ready on that occasion. He was next deputed to superintend the extensive encampments formed on the Curragh of Kildare under Lord Cathcart and Sir Charles Aspill in 1804, and subsequently those of 1805 and 1808, during which time, and up to 1815, he was in medical charge of the Connaught district of Ireland. In 1816 he was transferred to Munster, and then for thirty-one years conducted the medical duties of the division at Cork, during which time he personally superintended the embark-

ation for foreign service of nearly every regiment in the British Army,—a position then attended constantly with difficulties, and oftentimes with obstacles of a nature very hard to overcome, but which Sir James's good sense, good nature, and affable manner tended greatly to lessen and remove.

In 1837 he was knighted by Lord Normanby, on account of his professional services, and in 1847, upon the retirement of the late Dr Renny, Director-General of the Medical Department for Ireland, Sir James Pitcairn succeeded to the duties, which he performed without one day's interruption until his period of occupancy expired in 1852, when he retired into private life as a full Inspector of Hospitals.

Upon the occasion of his retirement he was presented with a splendid service of plate by the Medical Officers of the Army, and in the address which accompanied it, reference was made to the courteous bearing and urbanity which he had ever displayed towards those under his superintendence. In his reply sentiments were conveyed so characteristic of the individual, so truthfully correct, and so desirable of appreciation and adoption by others, that we cannot but transcribe them here. Addressing the large number of medical officers who attended the presentation, Sir James Pitcairn said: "A long period in an administrative capacity has assured me that authority and courtesy should ever go hand in hand. In a lengthened career, such as that I have passed through, there must necessarily have been some occasions when I was called upon to censure individuals. I have ever made it my endeavour to do so in the way that I considered would best answer public ends—not by irritating feelings, but by appealing to the man. Experience tells me that in this I have not erred."

The tone of Sir James's character may be further known and judged of by the mention of one little anecdote which the writer of this sketch was party to. A gentleman was repeating an ill-natured remark in Sir James's presence of an individual unknown to either. Stopping him in the course of his story, Sir James said: "Never let your mouth be opened unless for good; if you cannot speak to the credit of a man, keep it shut. This has been my rule through life, and I have never yet had cause to regret it."

It is needless to say that such a man had many friends, and we believe died without an enemy.

## ROBERT PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK.

Colonel Robert Pitcairn, twenty-third in descent, the second son of Sir James Pitcairn, was born at Athlone on the 29th of Dec. 1808. He entered the Staff Corps on the 19th of June 1826. In February 1829 he was transferred to the 12th Regiment. He exchanged in 1830 to the 7th Fusiliers, and in February 1831 to the 92nd Highlanders. He was gazetted Captain 6th Sept. 1839, and Major 11th Nov. 1851; Lieut.-Colonel, and appointed Staff officer of Pensioners for the Northern Division in 1857. Pitcairn married at Malta, on the 5th Dec. 1839, Eliza, fifth daughter of General G. Cardew of the Royal Engineers.

Colonel Pitcairn died on the 27th August 1873, leaving two sons and four daughters:—

(1) James Edward, born 16th June 1845.

(2) Charles Dalbiac, born 6th Feb. 1847, died 10th March 1896. He married Helen Whyte Mary, daughter of Dr Malcolm Munro Mackenzie; and had four sons and one daughter:—

1, Kenneth Malcolm, born 26th Aug. 1887.

2, Douglas Nevill, born 1st May 1889.

3, Colin Mackenzie, born 5th Aug. 1893.

4, Guy Dalbiac, born 28th April 1895.

1, Marjorie Joyce, born 12th June 1896.

(1) Harriet Emma Louisa, born 8 George's Quay, Cork, 26th August 1840, died at Barbadoes, 11th May 1841.

(2) Anna Maria, born at Berbice, 20th May 1842; married Captain Thomas L. Walsh, and died.

(3) Eleanor Constance Schreiber, married Edward N. Kilvert, Esq., and has two children: Robert, Lieut. in the Marine Artillery; and May, her only daughter.

(4) Leonora Cicely.



## JAMES EDWARD PITCAIRN OF THAT ILK.

James Edward Pitcairn of that Ilk, twenty-fourth in descent, eldest son of Colonel Robert Pitcairn of that Ilk, was born on the 16th June 1845. He married Dora, daughter of the Rev. Robert Kilvert, Rector of Langley Burrell, and has two sons: 1, Robert Francis, born Dec. 29, 1880; 2, James Edward, born June 18, 1882, both Lieutenants in the Royal Navy.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

## THE LIFE OF JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN.

THE Rev. James Pelham Pitcairn, Rural Dean, Honorary Canon of Manchester Cathedral, and late Vicar of Eccles, Lancashire, was the fourth son of Sir James Pitcairn of that Ilk, and was born at South Mall, Cork, on the 14th of February 1821.

He lost his mother when quite a child; but his eldest sister filled her place, and was like a mother to him. When he grew up he thought he would like to be a civil engineer, and became a pupil of Mr Robert Stevenson of Newcastle, son of the celebrated George Stevenson, the civil engineer.

Having worked at Newcastle and York for some time, Mr Pitcairn decided to take Orders, and become a clergyman. Therefore, in October 1841, he matriculated at King's College, London, and remained there one year until he came of age. In February 1842 he matriculated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and came into residence the 10th of October of the same year. In June 1846 he graduated in honours, 25th Senior Optime, and was twice prizeman of his College.

JESUS COLLEGE, *June 9, 1843.*

DEAR SIR,—I beg to inform you that the list came out this morning, and that your name appears thus in Classics—

Horsley	1st Prizeman.
<i>Venables</i>	2nd    "
Hallewell	"
Archer	"
Pitcairn	"
Etc.	



JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN,  
1827.





In Mathematics—

Archer	1st Prizeman.
Pitcairn	2nd "

I am also glad to inform you that the Master has appointed you Chapel Clerk for the ensuing year. It will be desirable, therefore, for you to be in residence early in the October Term.—I am, dear Sir, Yours truly,

ROBERT MERRY.

On Sunday the 19th of July 1846 he was ordained Deacon at Durham by the Bishop of Chester, and afterwards appointed Curate of Stand, Lancashire. In the month of July 1847 he was ordained priest at Durham by Dr Sumner, who became Archbishop of Canterbury. On resigning the curacy of Stand, he was presented with a Bible and purse of 80 guineas by the congregation. Mr Pitcairn then became Curate of Ardwick to the Rev. J. W. Gibson, February 1848; on the 30th of May 1850 was appointed Rector of Longsight; and after being there eleven years, was given the Crown living of Eccles by Lord Chancellor Westbury in 1861.

Canon Pitcairn married Emily, only daughter of Henry Turner, Esq., and Emily Adye his wife.

The family of Turner<sup>1</sup> derives its name from its ancient place of residence in Normandy, La Tour Noir (the Black Castle), whose lords were denominated "Les Sires de Tournoir," and by contraction Tournor, in the list of those who had received grants from William the Conqueror.

On an old cornelian seal of the time of Queen Anne, which is in Mrs Pitcairn's possession, are engraved the arms of the Turners, her father's family. They are also the same arms as the Earl of Winterton's family.

Ermines, on a cross quarter pierced, argent, four fer-de-moulins, sable.

Crest: A lion passant gardant, argent, ducally crowned, holding in the dexter paw a fer-de-moulin, sable. Motto: "Esse quam videre."

Mrs Pitcairn's mother (Emily Adye) was descended from an old Wiltshire family, the Adyes of Easton Gray, Wilts.

<sup>1</sup> Burke.

Their estate was granted to John Adye by King Henry VIII. in 1541.

Arthur Adye, grandson of John, owned Easton Gray, and died there 11th February 1682. His monument is in the parish church.

II. John Adye, his son, died 11th of March 1731, aged seventy-five. He left an annual sum to the poor, which is still paid out of the estate. His monument is in the churchyard. Arthur Adye, John's son, died 11th of September 1782, aged sixty-six. He married Anne Fifield, who died February 16, 1784, aged forty-two. Arthur Adye had three sons: 1, Joseph; 2, William Fifield; 3, Nathaniel; and one daughter, Anne Adye. The eldest son was the last owner of Easton Gray; for he and his father Joseph cut off the entail. Joseph died the 3rd of January 1804; his monument is in Sherston Churchyard. Joseph had three sons—1, Joseph; 2, Thomas; 3, John—who all died *sine prole*. Arthur Adye's second son, William Fifield Adye, married Sarah Deverell. He lived at Bradford-on-Avon, and died the 13th of July 1839, aged seventy-five. He had five sons and five daughters: 1, William; 2, Arthur; 3, Emily, married to Henry Turner, and was Mrs Pitcairn's mother; 4, Maria; and six children who all died young.

His eldest son, William Adye, married Harriet Howell, and had one son, William, who died young, and six daughters: Harriet, Emily, Susan, Maria, Ellen, and Eliza. William Adye died 28th of January 1866. Arthur Adye, the second son, married Margaret Rich, and died the 13th March 1875, and had seven sons and four daughters: 1, Marianne, died young; 2, William; 3, Ann; 4, Arthur; 5, Henry, died 9th August 1869; 6, Jane, died 1848; 7, George; 8, Edward; 9, Herbert; 10, Charles; 11, Emily, who died 1854.

The coat-of-arms of the Adye family is a shield with three leopards' heads, a closed helmet, above it a wreath with a stag resting on it.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Aubrey's Wiltshire.



JOHN TURNER.  
BORN 1750.





Canon Pitcairn kept a Diary with unfailing regularity for forty years; and as the entries refer to many churches being built and consecrated in the Diocese of Manchester, to the work he did, and incidentally to his unassuming piety, it shows, better than I could tell, his character, energy, and what a busy hardworking life he led.

In all the entries for forty years there is not one unkind, harsh word, or criticism of others; only content and thankfulness with his lot, and unostentatious goodness and piety.

#### EXTRACTS FROM DIARY.

1849. On *August the 6th*, licensed to the Curacy of Ardwick by Bishop James Prince Lee. The *11th, Wednesday*, I left for holiday to Ireland. Breakfasted with my dear Father and Lady Pitcairn.<sup>1</sup>

Found him very well, and looking not a day older.

18th. My dear father completes his seventy-third year. Truly he is a wonderful man. May God preserve and bless him! His little boy (Archibald) much worse, a sad birthday indeed. 19th, *Thursday*. This morning, at 6 A.M., my father's youngest child, Archibald, died, having been ill six days. Aged 5 months. Sat up with him till 5 A.M. May this child's death be blessed to us all. The dear little Baby looked quite beautiful even in death. The next morning, at 7½, Archibald Pitcairn was interred in the same grave as our sister, Harriet Babington. My father and I attended, and I read the service.

Sept. 3rd, *Friday*. The Queen entered Cove last night, at 8 P.M., and made her entry into Cork to-day. Her Majesty came a day earlier than was expected. I saw everything at the Custom House with James;<sup>2</sup> Cove was illuminated.

4th, *Saturday*. Left dear Woodlawn (Cork) with deep regret. Dearest Annie's<sup>3</sup> affectionate kindness has intensi-

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Pitcairn's second wife.

<sup>2</sup> His brother-in-law.

<sup>3</sup> His eldest sister, to whom he was devoted.

fied my love and interest for them all. Coach to Mallow, rail to Dublin. On the 6th, *Monday*, the Queen entered into Dublin. My father, Emma, and myself had a good view of the procession, at the house of Mr Davis near ye City Gates. Her Majesty was most enthusiastically received. Illuminations at night. The next day was the Queen's levee. My father and self went at one, and reached the castle at three. Most awful crush. I was presented by Sir Philip Crampton. Dined at the Irwins. On the following day I went in the morning to see the review in Phoenix Park. A most magnificent spectacle. And on the 10th, *Friday*, I went to Kingstown. Got on board the "Iron Duke," and from her paddle-box saw the Queen's departure from Kingstown. It was a splendid scene.

*From A. M. LANE, on the Death of her Child (she was James Pitcairn's much-loved eldest Sister), to The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN, 24 Herbert Place, Dublin.*

WOODLAWN,  
*Friday, November 4th, 1849.*

MY DARLING JAMES,—Thank you from my heart for your dear sympathising letters all through my sorrow. Next to my excellent husband, I *know* no one would or could feel for me, as you would do, for none upon earth *now* love me as you do. William's<sup>1</sup> love was like yours; but he, dear saint, is above with Christ.

I think I never realised the sympathy of my Saviour as I did in this my "*first grief*." I felt as though, if I may be allowed the expression, the Lord would have spared me the grief if He could; but in His *love* He has thus "rebuked and chastened" the parents in the early removal of this beloved child.

Dearest James, let us be very earnest, that you, James [her husband], and I, should be greatly blessed in our souls by the deep waters we three have gone through.

Oh! how precious Christ and His Word are *now* to us. I wrote a long letter last night to dear Emily.<sup>2</sup> How I rejoice to think of her joy at seeing you; give her my dear love.

Much as I should like to be with you, dear James, you will see, upon a calm reflection of it, it would not be possible for me to leave home at present. You can't think what a comfort Eliza<sup>3</sup> was

<sup>1</sup> Their brother.

<sup>2</sup> Mr Pitcairn's fiancée.

<sup>3</sup> Her sister, married to Lieut. West.

to us in our late trial, so tenderly did she watch our sainted child with me ; and the Gardes have been so kind to me since Eliza went away, they have indeed "wept with me."

I long to hear about your position at Manchester. I certainly think it is well Mr G.<sup>1</sup> should judge for himself how well you are, and yet, my darling James, I would rather you had recruited your strength a little, before you undertook duty. However, you are the best judge of that, and I am sure he will not ask you to do too much at first.

James sends his affectionate love to you, and is so sorry he will not be in Dublin in time to see you before you go, as he does not leave here until the middle of the week.—Ever, dearest brother,  
Your own sister,  
A. M. LANE.

*From A. M. LANE to The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN,  
after his Illness.*

*Sunday.*

MY DARLING JAMES,—I enclose this to-day, lest it should miss you. R. thought you were here.

I had hoped, my dearest brother, we would have gone to the House of God together to-day, and knelt together to partake of the Lord's Supper, but I indeed rejoice that you are so well as to be able at once to go over to England.

We will meet in spirit, and my desire is to forget *my* heart's sorrow in the contemplation of the sorrow of Him who was indeed a "Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." May Christ be more precious to us daily, my beloved James.—Ever your sincerely attached sister,  
A. M. LANE.

14th February 1850. On this day I enter upon my thirtieth year. Deep cause for thankfulness have I in the review of God's mercies to me through the past year. May it be my constant effort, in dependence on His help, henceforth to live to His praise and honour, for Christ's sake.

March 1st. The anniversary of my engagement to my beloved Milly. It is now three years since she consented to be my wife. Many changes there have been, but much happiness, and now I trust, please God, our love is so fixed that nothing can move it.

Sunday, 21st April. Mr Gibson preached in the morning,

<sup>1</sup> Mr Gibson. J. Pitcairn was then his curate.

I in afternoon. Anna Maria went to church both times, and with Emily and self to St Saviour's in evening. A beautiful sermon from Mr Birch. Oh! may the Lord bless it to us all!

*Saturday, May 5th.* My father breakfasted with us, and Robert<sup>1</sup> came in the afternoon. We all dined together, and on the *6th May, Monday*, my friends, who came for my wedding, dined at Critchley's, an old and valued friend, also Mr and J. Hilton, Peter Fairbairn, Mr Turner, my father, Robert, and self,—a very agreeable party.

*7th May.* This morning dawned on the accomplishment of my long-cherished hopes, in the union with my beloved Emily, at St Thomas' Church, Ardwick. Mr Gibson married us. We went to Leamington. All went off well, *very happy*. The long pathway to the church was strewed with roses.

Saw Warwick. Walked back to Leamington by Guy's Cliff, the sweetest view we had yet seen, and the most delicious walk. On *Tuesday the 14th*, left our nice lodgings, where we have spent the happiest week of our lives. Arrived at Winson at 7½, where we were received very kindly. A fortnight afterwards I was appointed Incumbent of St John's, Longsight, near Manchester. Patrons: Miss Marshall, the Bishop, J. Wanklyn, Esq., Sir John Anson, Bart., and Canon Sergeant.

On *June 9th* "Read myself in" at St John's, Longsight.

*Note.*—On *June 21st*, 1850, Mr Pitcairn was presented with a Bible and purse of money, by St Thomas' congregation, Ardwick, where he had been curate. On the *23rd June*, he preached his *farewell* sermon at St Thomas', Ardwick, and in the evening his *first* sermon at Longsight.

MR PITCAIRN'S SHORT ADDRESS AT LONGSIGHT,  
WHEN HE "READ HIMSELF IN."

I have thought it right thus briefly to preface with these few remarks the reading of these Articles, which are, among

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Pitcairn, his brother.





REV. JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN,  
1849.



other forms, necessary, before entering on the pastoral charge of this Church and District. Let me therefore entreat your earnest prayers at the throne of Grace, that I may be enabled, during the course of my ministrations among you, to hold fast those forms of sound words which we believe to be in strict accordance with Holy Scripture, and to which this day I am to declare my unfeigned assent, according to the injunction of the Apostle, "In faith and love, which is in Christ Jesus."

On *Thursday, the 27th of June* 1850, the first stone of the Longsight Schools was laid by Mr Anson.

1853, *October 12th*. Went to Denton, Consecration of Mr Farthing's church. The Bishop of Oxford preached. Gladstone, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, spoke, Lord Wilton, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Bishop of Manchester. Dined at the Worsleys in the evening. On *December the 26th*, there was a tea-party for the Congregation, at the School. Went off very well. Through the exertions and kindness of Messrs Nickson, Greenhow, Neville, Makin, and Johnson, I was enabled to announce the church as being free from debt. Then on the 30th, *Friday*, went to St Stephen's, Chorlton-on-Medlock, to consecration. My dear friend Birch<sup>1</sup> built it; Doyle,<sup>2</sup> Incumbent; Birch, preacher. Birch, Swallow, Fallowes, Wm. Bellhouse, Nield—Trustees. Luncheon at Birley's.

31st *December*. Wrote sermon. The last day of another year. Filled with mercies, overflowing with blessings, marked by much secularity of occupation, and neglect of ministerial work. May a God of mercy pardon it, and give me grace to live henceforth more to His glory, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*January 1st*, 1854. "Lord, so teach me to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wisdom."

14th, *Tuesday*. Went to London. Called on Henry Luard. Went to Broadstairs with Emily to Uncle William's. Most kind, affectionate reception. Completed my thirty-third year.

<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon Birch.

<sup>2</sup> Canon Doyle.

20th, *Monday*. Left our dear kind relations this morning at 10. Canterbury at 12. Emily and self delighted with the Cathedral. The Townsends' carriage, with four greys, met us at Fountain, and brought us twelve miles to Belmont. They are most kind, and it is a lovely place. Left for London on *Wednesday*, to stay with T. Critchley, Lowndes Square, at 5. Very kindly received. Called on D.,<sup>1</sup> the Charles Freelings, saw Edward,<sup>2</sup> Julia,<sup>2</sup> and Amelia;<sup>2</sup> and on the *Sunday*, walked with Emily to see Henry Dalbiac and his wife, who have just lost their youngest child.

*February 27th*. Went to Ipswich. Robert<sup>3</sup> met me in his little carriage with the grey mare. Found Eliza and children very well. Then on the 28th, *Tuesday*, returned to London, went with Emily to luncheon at the Freelings, and introduced her to Amelia and Julia. To the House of Commons in the evening. Walpole, Lord John Russell, and some Irish members spoke. On *Sunday* we went to Church at Chelsea. Took E. to call on R. Bickersteth and Frederika Rickman (Le Bas). Dined at Lowndes Square. The next day I saw Westminster Abbey, and then went to see Sir John and Lady Campbell. Critchley and I went to the House of Commons, where we heard Sidney Herbert, Secretary for War. On Friday we left the house of our kind friend, reaching home at 9.

On *March 24th, Friday*, I went to Alderley to the Rev. J. Consterdine's. He was most kind; himself and his wife are dear Christian people.

*Sunday, 26th*. Alderley. Took the boys' class in the morning and the girls' in the afternoon. Preached and read both times. Enjoyed greatly the whole Sunday and the long evening, during which we sang some sweet hymns. If earthly Sabbaths are sweet, what will Heaven be!

27th, *Monday*. I returned home refreshed, and, I trust, profited in spirit, to my own parish. Committee meeting

<sup>1</sup> Mr Henry Dalbiac, his cousin.

<sup>2</sup> Luard, cousins of Mr Pitcairn's.

<sup>3</sup> His brother, Colonel Pitcairn.



of the Bible Society, and of the Clerical Society. Supper with Birch; Marshall and Hazlewood dined with us.

*April 19th, Wednesday.* 7.30 breakfast. Many things to do in Manchester — Diocesan Committee Meeting from 11.30 to 2.30. Christened Mr Whitehead's baby; at 4, Bible-class. In the evening the Rev. P. Percival, missionary, gave a delightful lecture on India, in the school.

On the 29th his father and sister Eliza came to stay with him. He says: "My dearest father arrived, looking wonderful, and delighted with everything."

*April 30th.* When will so many of the family meet again? Perhaps never on earth. May we all meet in Heaven at last. On the 5th, Eliza returned to Liverpool, having given us a very happy visit. (She is much to be loved. On *July the 2nd, Sunday*, heard from George Luard of the sad death, by drowning at Southampton, of young Edward. Wrote to Winterslow at once.

*Note.*—Mr Pitcairn went to Ireland this year to see his father and sisters.

James L. and self and the Cumming boys went bathing before breakfast (Cork Harbour). Afterwards trawling, we caught a basket of fish, O'Grady with us (a cousin of his brother David's wife). Walked to Crosshaven and Curra-binny Hill. On the following Monday I left lovely Myrtle-ville, with its affectionate tenants, at 7 A.M. Reached Derrylea at 4.3. Beecher<sup>1</sup> (Fleming) meeting me at Monastereven. Music in the evening; enjoyed it very much. *Wednesday*, Beecher drove me into Monastereven. I reached Dublin at 4.15, and drove to the Hyndmans', 40 Leeson Street. It was indeed a reception of "Cead mill fealtha."

*December 21st.* Maria Cleather and Peter Fairbairn married.

*Sunday, December 31st.* Preached in the morning, "Set thine house in order." In the evening, "There shall be no night there."

<sup>1</sup> A cousin.

*Note.*—Mr Pitcairn writes in his Diary of the year past :—

“What manifold mercies and blessings have we enjoyed in the past year! What manifold shortcomings and misdoings has it witnessed!

“Lord, accept our thanksgiving, and forgive all that is past. Give grace for the future, and peace at the last.”

*14th February, 1855.* This day completed the thirty-fourth year of this earthly pilgrimage. “Lord, so teach me to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wisdom.”

On the *12th March* I attended a Committee meeting of the Diocesan Society. Busy about the Church Missionary Society. Luncheon at St Saviour’s School at Birch, the Bishop in the chair. Meeting in the evening; Moodie of Madras very delightful. Birch being away, all fell on me.

*1st April.* Full service and Communion in the morning. Preached at Heaton Mersey before the Bishop in the afternoon. In the evening preached and read at Longsight.

*18th, Wednesday.* Went to London and breakfasted with Robert.<sup>1</sup> Called on the Freelings, and saw Louisa Luard. Called at Dr Haggard’s. Dined at Critchley’s. On the *19th, Thursday*, I saw the Emperor and Empress of French go to city. Dined at the Partridges’, and saw the illuminations in the evening.

*20th, Friday.* Critchley and self drove down to the Crystal Palace, where we saw the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Emperor and Empress of the French. Magnificent view. Returned at seven o’clock.

The next day, *Saturday*, Emily, Critchley, and self left by 11.30 train for Dover, reached Uncle William’s at 2.30. Critchley dined with us. We drove to Dover Castle, went over Walmer, and saw in the Castle the room where the Duke of Wellington died.

His entries after April are of visits paid in the parish, until the *4th of October*, when, at the Quarterly Meeting

<sup>1</sup> His brother, Colonel Pitcairn.

of the Church Building Society, he was appointed Clerical Agent at £200 per annum, and travelling expenses.

*12th, Friday.* Wrote part of sermon. Called at Mauldeth and sat an hour with the Bishop, who was most kind and confidential.

*14th, Sunday.* Took both full services and school.

*15th, Monday.* Distributed clothing orders to members of club. Attended at Diocesan Society's office. Left at 4 for Lancaster. Dined and slept at Richard Wilson's. Left kind friend's house Wednesday. Stopped at Preston, saw Canon Pearson and Rev. T. Clarke. Lunched with Vicar. Home to tea.

*22nd, Monday.* Attended Finance Committee, Church Building Society. Went to Heaton Mersey. Called with Cruttenden on Phillips, Renshaw, Danniels, Romilleys, and Pearson. Dined with Cruttenden.

*24th, Wednesday.* Went as deputation to Bible Meeting at Bowden.

*25th, Thursday.* Writing for Church Building Society. Dined with the Bishop.

*26th, Friday.* Visited sick.

*27th, Saturday.* Wrote sermon.

*28th, Sunday.* Took morning and afternoon school, and both full services.

*29th, Monday.* Attended a prayer-meeting in town, then gave out clothing tickets at home. Attended and spoke at Jews' Meeting, Manchester. Home with the Bishop afterwards to Mauldeth.

*30th.* Called early on Critchley. Also on the Wilsons, Barkers, Tomlins. Visited sick. Dined at home.

*31st, Wednesday.* All day at Ashton for the Society.

*1st July, Thursday.* Went to Rochdale, met Canon Raines.<sup>1</sup> Called on and dined with Dr Molesworth.<sup>2</sup> Home to tea, lectured.

*4th, Sunday.* School, morning and afternoon. Both full services, funeral and christenings.

*7th, Wednesday.* Went to Irish Romanist Mission Meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Great antiquarian.

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of Rochdale.

10th. With so much work it is not wonderful he said :  
“In bed nearly all day with headache, wrote sermon towards evening.”

24th December. Dined at home, a happy Christmas eve.

*Note.*—Mr Pitcairn had an immense stock of energy. Not only had he his own parish to look after, but he was deputation Secretary to two Societies, the Diocesan Church Building Society, and the Bible Society, which entailed much going about from place to place in the diocese. His days were full of work, and his Diary tells more than any one else could say, the great amount he got through. He was a most excellent organiser, and very methodical, which greatly helped him.

1856, 14th April. Left for London. Dined at Robert's.

15th, Tuesday. Called on the Bishop. Went with Robert to the Levée, and dined with him.

16th. Saw Rodwell, Secretary of the Curate's Aid Society, about a grant. Saw Amelia Freeling and George Luard's wife. Called on Fred and Johnny Luard. Dined with the Bishop.

17th, Tuesday. Saw the Bishop. Dined with Robert. Evening party at the Freulings'.

Then on to my uncle William's (who then lived at Dover), stayed there for a week, and on the 25th, left with Uncle by 10 train, reached dear sweet home at 4.45, and found all well.

October 28th. Went to Town on Church Building Society business. Went with the Bishop to the Bible meeting in the new Free Trade Hall. About 5000 present. The Bishop drove me home.

November 2nd, Sunday. Aunt Phœ peacefully breathed her last at 8.15 this morning, and fell asleep in Jesus.

*Note.*—After his aunt's death, Mr Pitcairn arranged about her funeral, as his uncle William wished his wife to be buried in the family vault at Spitalfields, where some of his family were interred.



*November 6th, Thursday.* Went to London with dear Aunt Phœ's remains by 9.30 train. She was interred at Spital-fields Church, in the family vault under the Chancel. Robert, self, Mr Randall, and young Bullock attended funeral. Robert dined with me. Left by 5 o'clock express.

*July 18th, 1857.* Reached Dublin at 7. My father's eightieth birthday.

*July 22nd.* Harriet Pitcairn West<sup>1</sup> and William Gorman<sup>2</sup> were married at St Peter's by me; everything went off charmingly.

*23rd.* Reached dear home at 8, after very happy visit.

*From* The DUCHESS of ROXBURGHE (after her Visit with the DUKE and LADY CHARLOTTE at Longsight Rectory, to see the Manchester Exhibition) *to* Mrs JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN, Longsight Rectory, Manchester.

LONDON, *October 21st.*

MY DEAR MRS PITCAIRN,—I wish you and your dear husband could have heard us *all three* speaking of Longsight, on our way to town and many times since. It is no mere form of words to say that my visit afforded me unmixed pleasure, and we all thank you and James most heartily for your affectionate kindness and genuine hospitality, both of which, I think you know, Roxburghe and I can appreciate. Will you give the dear old man<sup>3</sup> my love, and tell him his likeness is to be framed against my return to England, ready for my room in the North! I did *so* enjoy seeing him again, and to feel how happy you make his latter years.

I trust *my* boy<sup>4</sup> continues to flourish; I believe his Godmother did him and you no good during those Exhibition days! And now I must conclude, uniting Crowie's kindest love with mine to you and James. My husband has not returned yet.—Believe me always, Yours very affectionately,

S. ROXBURGHE.

*From* The DUCHESS of ROXBURGHE, Floors, *to* The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN, Longsight Rectory, Manchester.

FLOORS, *April 19th, 1858.*

MY DEAR JAMES,—I got your very kind letter the other day, and was glad to hear you are all so well. The weather is now

<sup>1</sup> His sister Eliza's only daughter.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. William Gorman, Archdeacon of Ossory.

<sup>3</sup> William Pitcairn, Canon Pitcairn's uncle.

<sup>4</sup> William Dalbiac Pitcairn, her godson.

lovely. I expect that our dearest Bowmont returns to Oxford to-night, and we have only happy news to report. My object in writing to you, my dear James, to-day is, however, not to dilate on family happiness, but to ask you and your wife to come and see it—Roxburghe and I so seldom spend the month of May here, that we do hope it may be possible for you and your wife to pay us a visit in the course of it. We know of *no* engagements till June, and few things will please us so much as you and your wife coming to see us. Would you like the middle of May? But the whole of the month is open to you, and I do *sincerely* hope you can gratify us by coming.

I feel it would be absurd to invite your dear old uncle, for he told me he should never move again. But I think of him affectionately in writing on the subject, as I hope he would be sure of. I shall anxiously look for your answer, and pray give my love to Mrs Pitcairn, and tell her how much I shall enjoy showing her my dear home.—Ever your very affectionate Cousin,

S. ROXBURGHE.

We don't believe the Derby ministry will last long.

1858, *May 10th*. Emily and self left for Floors at 11.30. R. Prescott and the two Miss Okells staying there.

Enjoying Floors and its charming walks and most kind hosts. *Thursday*, drove to Newton Don. *Friday*, went fishing and caught some trout. *Saturday*, Susan came, and her husband (Sir James Grant Suttie) to stay, also Miss MacDougall. *Sunday*, preached at the Episcopal Church, Kelso, in the morning.

23rd, *Sunday*. Preached for the Irish Society at the Episcopal Church.

*Monday*. The Duchess, Lady Susan, Lady Charlotte, Miss Okell, Miss Heber, Mrs Arthur Campbell, Emily, and self drove over to Greenhill. Such lovely hills. Lunched there, and returned to dinner. On *May 25th*, *Tuesday*, left Floors after the most delightful visit. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the Duke and Duchess. Reached home at 8, found the dear chicks, thank God, well.

*Note*.—In July Mr Pitcairn went a walking tour, twenty miles a-day, through Wales with his friend Mr Osborne

for four days. Llanberis, Beddgelert, Festiniog, Bettys-y-coed, a most refreshing change after his hard work.

*3rd August.* Louisa Luard, Julia, and her father came to us from Blyborough.

*19th, Tuesday.* Called at Mauldeth<sup>1</sup> with Emily and the children, had dinner there, went on to tea at the Nevills'.

He went on the 24th for four days to Dublin to see his father, who was far from well, "found him much broken."

*27th.* Left my dear father's. Reached home at 8.

*23rd September.* Received much better account of my dearest father.

My sister Eliza, her boy Charlie, and my brother Robert, came to stay. "Dear Eliza, to the regret of us all, left to-day."

*7th October.* Attended ragged school meeting. Lord J. Russell spoke. Went to the "Creation" in Free Trade Hall.

*November 15th.* Took farewell of the Richsons.

1859. Preached though suffering in morning.

*January 2nd.* Inflammatory sore throat.

Ill until the 10th.

On the 11th, *Tuesday*, one of his children was taken ill with scarlet fever.

*12th, Wednesday.* Telegram saying my beloved Father breathed his last at 3 Haddington Road, Dublin. He was born 18th July 1776, and would have been eighty-three next July.

*Note.*—Although ill, Mr Pitcairn started at once for Dublin.

*Thursday, 13th.* Arrived at 10.30: Annie, Eliza, Louisa, J. Lane, and H. West there. My beloved father lay undisturbed, like an infant *sleeping*.

On the 15th, Mr Pitcairn had news that another child had scarlet fever. That day he says: "To-day we com-

<sup>1</sup> The Bishop's palace.

mitted my father's dear remains to the grave, in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to Eternal Life."

16th, *Sunday*. Went to Mr Verschoyle's church, and sat in my dearest father's seat. His spirit was worshipping in the Temple not made with hands.

January 19th. Reached home at 7.30. Both my dearest children better.

God has been very merciful and gracious. "Bless the Lord, O my soul."

N.B.—Mr Pitcairn had evidently a touch of scarlet fever himself, and again says:—

22nd, *Saturday*. Wrote sermon. Still very weak.

23rd, *Sunday*. Preached morning and evening, though with discomfort. 3rd *February*. Throat bad again. 5th, *Saturday*. Throat bad, in bed all day. 6th, *Sunday*. Morning took whole duty with pain and difficulty. Evening preached with more ease.

14th *February*. This day completes my thirty-eighth year. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped me." In the future "The Lord will provide."

17th. At Bury on Church Building Society business. Lunched with Canon Hornby. Met the Bishop of Cape-town (Grey).

26th *March, Saturday*. Attended the laying of the first stone of St Peter's, Levenshulme.

4th *April*. In town. Finance Meeting of the Diocesan Society, and examining referees all day. Clerical Meeting at Birch's<sup>1</sup> in the evening.

13th, *Wednesday*. Took Lent Lecture at St Paul's.

14th, *Thursday*. The Nickson girls to dinner.

1st *May*. Thanksgiving day for the Indian Peace.

On the 6th of *June, Monday*. Left for London. The next day called on the Roxburghes at 10.30. The Duke having got me a ticket, I went to see the Queen open Parliament in the House of Lords. Magnificent and deeply interesting. Called with Robert, Eliza,<sup>2</sup> and Annie<sup>2</sup> on Louisa<sup>2</sup> Rowley.

<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon Birch.

<sup>2</sup> His sisters.



Drove in the Park. Went to see the Duchess and Susan before they went to the Queen's Ball: they looked lovely. On the 9th, *Tuesday*, went to the Crystal Palace for ye day. Dined at Amelia Freeling's.

10th, *Wednesday*. Saw Susan Roxburghe and the Duke in the morning, and Lady Susan and her sweet baby. Returned home in the evening.

13th *June, Monday*. Took Fanny Fleming to see the Procession of Children in Manchester.

*Note*.—The annual procession of all the Manchester Sunday Schools, with their bands, flags, and banners, is a most interesting sight.

*June 25th, Saturday*. Went to laying of the foundation-stone of St Peter's, Oldham Road.

28th, *Tuesday*. To Rossall School Annual Exam., and to Fleetwood in the evening. Slept at Osbornes'.

29th, *Wednesday*. Left with the Osbornes and school-children for Peel at 7.30 A.M., and on to Penistone by special train. Enjoyed it much.

30th, *Thursday*. Left Fleetwood, went to Lancaster to see Mr Wilson, who is very ill, on to Morecambe. Home to the Rectory in the evening.

*July 29th, Friday*. Emily and self went to spend the day at Nuttall, to the Robert Grants,<sup>1</sup> to see Isabella Lawson (*née* Grant), her husband, and children. Enjoyed it greatly.

*August 3rd, Wednesday*. Dined at Sir Harry Smith's.<sup>2</sup>

*August 22nd*. Train to Windermere with Emily, and Ellen, and Fanny Thompson. Coach to Waterhead (a most merciful and providential escape from what threatened to be an awful upset). For four days went a delightful driving tour through the Lakes.

*N.B.*—One of the traces of the coach broke, the horses took fright and ran away. Mr Pitcairn helped the coachman to turn it to one side, and stop the horses.

<sup>1</sup> The Grants were the originals of Dickens's Cheeryble Brothers, and were most charitable people.

<sup>2</sup> A most distinguished officer.

*1st January 1860.* Preached morning and evening. Looking back on the past year, and forward to the untrodden future, I would take for a motto, "I thank God and take courage."

*12th, Thursday.* This is the anniversary of my beloved father's death.

*May 23rd, Wednesday.* Baby<sup>1</sup> very ill. Central African Mission Meeting. The Bishop of Oxford and Lord Brougham spoke; met them at dinner at Mr Barnes'. On the *24th, Thursday*, breakfasted at Canon Richson's, to meet Archdeacon Mackenzie and the Bishop of Oxford. Baby no better.

*28th, Monday.* Baby had long sleep. Better, though very weak.

*Note.*—Mr Pitcairn and his wife went to Ireland on the 20th of September to Dublin, then to Cork, for the marriage of his niece Harriet Lane.

*24th Sept. 1860.* Went with Emily to Crosshaven, by steamer to Queenstown, and to Monkstown to my beloved mother's grave. Eliza West, Henry West, and Harriet Gorman arrived to-day; Jem Lane<sup>2</sup> and Miss Kennedy to-morrow.

*27th, Thursday.* I married Harriet Lane to Captain Weston this morning at Temple Brady Church. All went off well. Six bridesmaids. Twenty-eight sat down to breakfast. Bride and bridegroom off to Killarney. After a most delightful visit left dear Annie's, reached Dublin 4.20.

*29th, Saturday.* Arrived home at 8 P.M. Found our darlings all well.

LETTER TO HIS WIFE ON HER BIRTHDAY, GIVING HER A WATCH.

*9th of July.*

MY OWN BELOVED WIFE,—Uncle William, who loves you much, and I, who love you better than all the world beside, have united our mites to present you, on this your Birthday, with the accompanying token of our deep affection. May our gracious Father above spare you to us, and those darling children to whom you

<sup>1</sup> His son Arthur.

<sup>2</sup> His nephew.

are ever proving yourself the best of Mothers, and give you and me grace so to walk ourselves in His faith, and fear, and love, and so to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that when earthly partings are for ever ended, we may all meet before the Great White Throne in the presence of that Saviour who loved us and gave Himself for us; and may it form part of our happiness to be able to say, "Behold us, and the children whom Thou hast given us."

God Almighty bless, preserve, and keep you.—This is the daily prayer of, My darling Milly, Your ever fondly loving Husband,  
J. P. PITCAIRN.

LETTER FROM HIS WIFE.

Written on it by James P. Pitcairn, "A very precious letter."

MY DEARLY LOVED HUSBAND,—This morning I have been cheered and gladdened by receiving your dear precious letter. I have just been indulging myself with another perusal before writing to you—I keep all your dear letters in my dress pocket, and I will not tell you how often I read them. I hope, dearest, you will not even think of not going to Ireland, for though I should love to see your loved face sooner, still I should not welcome you with the same honest pleasure—at least it would be clouded by the thought that for our own selfish gratification you had left a high duty unperformed; and I hope when you read this from your own Milly, you will D.V. be on your way to Ireland.

Our dear children have just gone with Mary to Aunt Jane's, dressed in their white pelisses, looking as fresh as the flowers they were carrying to their aunt; they both gave me a kiss for Father, and their *love* (love). I believe you will find them grown, they seem to improve rapidly. I wish you would buy in Ireland two common wooden dolls for them, no other kind are useful, with some common clothes that they could take off and put on again; smart dolls are quite useless, and they have only *Kitty* now, who is the subject of daily disputes,—of course they each want to nurse her exactly at the same moment.

It was a kind little note your dear uncle enclosed. It is indeed sweet comfort, my beloved, to know though far sundered yet our prayers mingle and are presented at the "Mercy-seat" by one Saviour. What a sweet hymn that was you chose for last Sunday morning: it was a sweet thought yesterday to feel our praises and prayers were ascending at the same time. I do not feel *now* that there is any joy or honour equal to that of knowing that I am one of the *little* flock, the true Church of Christ, . . .

unworthy of such honour, and yet clad in the spotless robe of Jesus' righteousness, acceptable and beloved in God's sight. The last few days I have rather been careful and troubled about many things, *trifles*, but they have clouded my spiritual life, have deadened my communion with God; my prayers have been cold and listless, is it not sad when we fall so low? Oh that I may by the Holy Spirit's aid see how wrong I am, abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes. Darling Husband, pray for me—you may indeed say we are closely knit together, I trust by ties that may never be riven.

I think Mr Stephens is visiting the poor. Mr Walker preached last night, an earnest, beautiful sermon, but rather too long.

The canary flew away this morning, but Burling [the gardener] caught it in a field. I have it by me on the dining-room table, for it has nearly died with terror; but as it is chirping again, I think it will live yet to welcome its master home again by a song.

Mrs Geldert's sister is waiting to put this in the post, so I must conclude, with love to Annie when you see her.—Your own fondly attached Wife,

EMILY PITCAIRN.

1861, *Jan.* 30. Went to Mrs Le Bas' on the death of my cousin, Mr Le Bas<sup>1</sup>—aged eighty-two.

14 *Feb.* To-day I am forty years of age! "Goodness, mercy, forbearance, and long-suffering." This is the record. May I take it to heart, O God!

19, *Tues.* Up to London. Breakfasted with the Roxburghes at Clarendon. Saw Pepys and Spring Rice. Dined at the Freulings'.

20, *Wed.* Lunched at the Clarendon. Met Pepys in Piccadilly. He said, "You have got Eccles."

*Note by Editor.*—It was entirely through the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe's great kindness, and exertions on his behalf, that Mr Pitcairn got the living of Eccles, which the following letters plainly show:—

*From His Grace The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to*  
The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN.

HOLKER, NEWTON-IN-CARTMEL,  
*February 15th, 1861.*

SIR,—I have seen a letter in which the Bishop of Manchester speaks of your exertions and character in the highest terms. As

<sup>1</sup> Principal of the East India College.



what I have now learnt respecting you appears thoroughly to justify the interest taken by the late Duke of Devonshire in your prospects, I can have no hesitation in saying that I shall be very glad to hear of your application for the living of Eccles being successful, and when an opportunity occurs shall be happy to speak a word in your favour.—Your obedient Servant,  
DEVONSHIRE.

*From His Grace The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to His Grace  
The DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T., The Clarendon, New Bond  
Street, London, W.*

HOLKER, NEWTON-IN-CARTMEL,  
*February 15th, 1861.*

MY DEAR DUKE,—The Bishop of Manchester's letter which you enclosed to me is certainly very satisfactory, and this, coupled with the interest which the late Duke of Devonshire appears to have taken in Mr Pitcairn's prospects, will induce me to endeavour to assist him in obtaining the living of Eccles.—I am, Yours very truly,  
DEVONSHIRE.

THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE.

On Canon Pitcairn being appointed to Eccles:—

*From The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN,  
Longsight Rectory, Manchester.*

*Monday, Feb. 17th, 1861.*

My DEAR JAMES,—Come to breakfast to-morrow at 10, please. Roxburghe is off to Mr Pepys—and I made an appointment with the Lord Chancellor (whom I met at Lord Palmerston's on Saturday night after dining with the Queen, as R. could not go) for R. to speak to him on the Woolsack this afternoon. I am so anxious, and so is Roxburghe.—Yours most affectionately  
S. ROXBURGHE.

*From His Grace The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to His Grace The  
DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T., The Clarendon, New Bond  
Street, London, W.*

HOLKER, NEWTON-IN-CARTMEL,  
*February 18th, 1861.*

My DEAR DUKE,—I have written to the Chancellor by to-day's post backing up your application in favour of Mr Pitcairn. Although I am not personally acquainted with him, I well recollect the very favourable opinion entertained of him by the Bishop of

Manchester, and it would give me much pleasure to hear that he had obtained the vacant living of Eccles.—I am, My dear Duke,  
Yours very truly, DEVONSHIRE.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE.

*From His Grace The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to  
The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN.*

HOLKER, NEWTON-IN-CARTMEL,  
*February 18th, 1861.*

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge your letter, and to inform you that I have written to the Lord Chancellor in your favour. It would give me much pleasure to hear of your having obtained from him the vacant living of Eccles.—I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,  
DEVONSHIRE.

#### COPIES OF TESTIMONIALS TO CANON PITCAIRN.

WE, the President and Fellows of Jesus College, in the University of Cambridge, do hereby certify all whom it may concern that the Rev. James Pelham Pitcairn, Bachelor of Arts, late of this College, was distinguished during the time he was resident amongst us for his Mathematical ability, that he was a Prizeman in Mathematics at every examination, and a Foundation Scholar of the College, and that in the University examination for Mathematical Honours he obtained the distinction of a Senior Optime, so that we think him well deserving the recommendation which we now give him, under our hands, this first day of June, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

C. S. DRAKE, *President.*

J. GIBSON, *Dean.*

J. P. BUCKETT, *Tutor.*

*From Mr T. CORSER, Rector of Stand, and Rural Dean.*

I HAVE very great pleasure in stating that having known Mr Pitcairn intimately for several years, first as Curate to myself for more than two years, and since then from constantly meeting and acting with him upon Committees and seeing him frequently, I can conscientiously testify to his general, earnest, and great attention to his important duties, in my large and populous parish, whilst Curate at Stand, his zeal and activity in visiting the sick, by whom his services were much appreciated, his talents and effective powers in the Pulpit, which are of a high order, and by his gentlemanly

and Christian conduct, which endeared him very much to myself and to the congregation. I have every reason to believe that in his present situation he is highly acceptable to his parishioners at Longsight, by whom he is greatly beloved—and for his readiness, punctuality, and aptitude for general business, his services have been in much request. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to hear of his increased success in the Church, being convinced that wherever he may be located, he will prove a great acquisition and blessing to the parish in which he may be fixed.

THOS. CORSER,

*Rector of Stand and Rural Dean.*

STAND RECTORY, *Feb. 3, 1861.*

THE REV. J. P. PITCAIRN has been Rector of the parish contiguous to mine for some years, and I have had the pleasure of living in habits of close intimacy with him. I can confidently bear testimony to his high moral principles, and earnest religious character, and zeal and diligence in the various duties, parochial and diocesan, a clergyman is called to fulfil. I may add that while his religious views were definite and decided, he has lived in harmony with and is respected by men of all parties.

EDWARD BIRCH, M.A.,

*Rector of St Saviour's, Manchester, and Rural Dean.*

(Afterwards Archdeacon of Manchester and Vicar of Blackburn.)

HAVING for some years known the Rev. J. P. Pitcairn well, I am authorised in bearing testimony to his character and qualifications; and his Scriptural tenets and earnest piety, active habits, his aptness for business, and ministerial experience and attainments, combine to fit him for an important parochial charge.

HUGH STOWELL, M.A.,

*Incumbent of Christ Church, Salford;  
Hon. Canon of Chester; Rural Dean and D.C.  
to the Lord Bishop of Manchester.*

PENDLETON, *Feb. 1, 1861.*

BIRCH RECTORY, *Feb. 2, 1861.*

THE REV. J. P. PITCAIRN has been for several years past the Incumbent of the next parish to mine. I have always regarded him as an active and conscientious clergyman, sincere in his religious feeling and principle, and zealous in his work. He has been a kind and friendly neighbour, one on whose sympathy and co-operation I could rely in all matters which affected the common interests of our parishes. Since he has been the Incumbent (now the Rector) of his present parish, he has considerably enlarged his

church, has added a commodious and very well arranged Infants' School, and has built a Parsonage house, all which works have shown more than ordinary ability and management, and no less energy in the execution. He has amply provided for the wants of his parish. I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my sense of the faithfulness with which he has sought to fulfil the trust committed to him.

G. H. G. ANSON,

*Chaplain to the Bishop of Manchester, and  
later Archdeacon of Manchester.*

21, Thurs. Breakfasted with the Roxburghes at the Clarendon. Left by 2.45 train, home 8.50. What cause for thankfulness!

It was indeed a matter of great congratulation to Mr Pitcairn that he should have been presented to the living of Eccles. Eccles is in the gift of the Crown, and at that time was probably worth between £1000-£1200 a-year. Not only that, but the church was a most interesting one, dating certainly from A.D. 1111, and probably much earlier. It is an imposing old church, hoary with age, with a square tower and peal of bells. It is partly Gothic, and seats 1500 people. The curfew bell still rings every night at 8 o'clock. It was then a most influential living, as it included many daughter churches, now made into separate parishes. The Vicars of Eccles have two or three livings in their gift, besides being co-trustees for others.

#### ST MARY'S CHURCH, ECCLES, IN THE OLDEN TIMES.<sup>1</sup>

The earliest grants in the Whalley Coucher Book<sup>2</sup> relating to Eccles Church are three by Gilbert, son of William de Notton, who married, about the year 1120, Edith, the lady of the manor of Barton, and who was usually called Gilbert de Notton, of Newton, in Yorkshire, from his father's place of abode.

By the second deed he gives, "with the assent of Edith de Barton, my wife, to William, clerk (or parson) of Eccles,

<sup>1</sup> Notes on Eccles Church, by J. T. Harland, F.S.A.

<sup>2</sup> Translation in four vols. is in the Cheetham Library.



one-fourth part of the Church of Eccles (to wit, that part which was his father's) for life, in pure and perpetual alms, for the souls of my father and mother, of myself, my wife and children, and of all our ancestors."

By the third deed, Gilbert de Notton "and Edith my wife and our heir, give to God and the Church of St Mary at Eccles, and the clerks of that Church, and the men dwelling in that vill, free common of our manor of Barton—to wit, to have their estovers in wood and plain. We grant to these clerks that we will carry as far as the barn (or granary) of our granges (or farms) the tithes of our grass, which the men of the said clerks may receive there." Amongst the witnesses is Thomas, chaplain of Eccles, who probably was the chantry priest of one of the ancient chapels or chantries within the parish church.

Gilbert de Notton and Edith de Barton his wife had two sons, called William de Notton and Roger de Notton. William, the eldest, named his eldest son Gilbert, after the grandfather, and when this young Gilbert became heir to his grandmother's great estates, he ceased to be called "de Notton" (the name of his father and grandfather), and took the name of his grandmother's family "de Barton." Gilbert de Barton (who died before 1277) left two children—a son, John, who seems to have died unmarried, or at least without surviving children, and a daughter Agnes, who thus became heiress of Barton. This Agnes in time married and left but one child, a daughter named Loretta, who became, like her mother, the sole heiress of Barton. Loretta married, about the year 1292, John del Bothe—that is, John of the Booth, a place in Worsley, of which the name still remains in Booth Hall and Boothstown. This John del Bothe thus became Lord of the Manor of Barton in right of his wife—in other words, that Manor passed by distaff from the Bartons (by failure of male heirs) to the Booths. This little bit of family history is necessary to the right understanding of the grants of various members of the Barton family to, or concerning, Eccles Church.

Let us now trace the transmission of the advowson of St Mary's, Eccles. Gilbert de Barton, Steward to John de Lascy, Earl of Lincoln, Baron of Halton, and Constable of Chester, sold, as he states in his deed, "to my Lord, John de Lascy, &c., 10 acres of land in the vil of Barton, of my demesne near Henneden, between the great street [or way] and the moss, near the bounds of Pendlebury, with the advowson [or right of presenting to the living] of the Church of Eccles; with all the Chapels and liberties to the same belonging."

He adds, "This confirmation I have given to them [the monks of Stanlaw] for the salvation of my soul, and the souls of my ancestors and my successors, in pure and perpetual alms," &c. Amongst the witnesses were "H., then parson of Eccles, and all the chapter of Weryngton" (Warrington).

For nearly two centuries and a half the Abbot and convent of Whalley were the owners of the Church of Eccles, until the Abbey was dissolved in 1539. Its last Abbot, John Paslew, for taking part in the monkish rebellion called "The Pilgrimage of Grace," was hung at Whalley two years before the dissolution—viz., on the 12th March 1537. After the dissolution, the advowson of the Church of Eccles became vested in the Crown, and is now exercised by the Lord Chancellor for the time being.

The oldest chantry in the church was that of St Katharine, founded by Thomas del Bothe of Barton before the year 1368. It was dedicated by him to "St Katharine, the Virgin and Martyr," and in his will (dated 1368) he says: "First, I give and bequeathe my soul to God and the blessed Virgin Mary, and my body to be buried in the Church of Eccles, before the altar of St Katharine, Virgin." He also bequeathed to the two chaplains £6, 13s. 4d., to be paid upon the altar of St Katharine, to pray for the souls of King Edward III., Roger la Warre (baron of Mamecestre), and Thos. de Wyche, parson of Mamecestre, and for the souls of his father, of Roger de Hulton, and all other benefactors. This is the chapel re-

built in 1862-63 on the south side of the church, through Canon Pitcairn's exertions. On the pillar nearest to the entrance of St Catherine's Chapel are carved the emblems of her martyrdom—a wheel, pincers, and hammer.

The second chantry was founded in 1450, by Lawrence Bothe, D.D., youngest child of John Bothe, of Barton, and grandson of Thos. del Bothe. In 1457 he was consecrated Bishop of Durham, and in 1476 Archbishop of York. He ordered a deed to be executed as follows:—

The chaplains to receive equal portions of the endowment, and to conduct themselves religiously, honestly, and peaceably, and never to use vexatious or opprobrious words, nor to act contumaciously towards each other, otherwise the Vicar of Eccles shall fine the offender 12d. for each offence, which sum shall be disposed of by the Vicar and the other chaplain as they may think proper.

This foundation deed is dated at Clayton, near Manchester, 20th July 1450 (Bothe's Regist., Lichfield, p. 89, printed in Rev. Canon Raines's 'Lancashire Chantries,' p. 132).

The third chantry or college, styled "The College of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary," in the Church of Eccles, was founded in 1460, by William Bothe, D.D., when Archbishop of York (a fellow of Manchester College in 1425 and 1430), who resigned Lichfield in 1452, on being translated to York, and died in 1464.

The Archbishop's anniversary is to be observed with due solemnity for ever, and he gives 30s. annually to be distributed in alms. He also provides that a house, and certain chambers, shall be built on a vacant plot near the churchyard of Eccles with this money, and that this manse shall serve for the residence of the chaplains of St Katharine, and the chaplains of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary, who shall have a common hall, and shall table (or have their meals) together. Special care is to be taken in selecting chaplains, so that good men may be appointed. A roll is to be provided, inscribed with the names of the individuals whose orbits are to be kept, and to be suspended above the altar. This foundation deed is dated at

the manor of Scroby, 6th May 1460.<sup>1</sup> The Archbishop wrote several "special prayers" (Latin) to be used in these services. In his will (Latin), dated 26th August 1464, is this clause: "I will that my executors erect a house for the chaplains by me ordained in the Parish Church of Eccles, £40." The chantry on the north side of the chancel of the church has long borne the name of the Trafford Chapel, and belongs (as well as the old porch of the church) to the family of Trafford, late of Trafford Park, in the old parish of Eccles.

The fourth chantry, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was founded by Sir Geoffrey Massey, Knt., Lord of the Manor of Worsley in the parish of Eccles, and of Tatton, Cheshire. He was living in 1475, but died before Aug. 1498. His granddaughter and heiress married Sir Richard Brereton; and her grandson, Richard Brereton of Worsley, Esq., dying on the 18th Dec. 1598, settled all his estates upon his wife's kinsman, Sir Thos. Egerton, Lord Chancellor, from whom they descended to the Earls and Dukes of Bridgewater, the Worsley estate being now held by their kinsman, the Earl of Ellesmere. Thus it will be seen how this chantry of the Holy Trinity came to be called the Bridgewater Chapel, and why it should receive the monument of Sir Richard Brereton, Esq., and his wife and child.

A small aisle on the north side of the chancel has been called "The Clowes Chantry," and was claimed by the late Col. Clowes, of Broughton Hall, in right of the messuage called New Barns Hall; but it seems probable that it is the same as "Mr Worsley's chapel place" of Booths, mentioned in some orders as to the pews in 1695, and ought to be claimed as in right of Booths, or Booths Hall.

In the 'Lancashire Chantries' of the Rev. Canon Raines (vol. 59 of Chetham Society, 1863) are the Reports of the Commissioners of Henry VIII. on two chantries in Eccles Church:—

*Trinity College.* In that of the Holy Trinity they state

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Bothe, Lichfield, pp. 95-104. Reg. Bothe, York, p. 245. Canon Raines's Lancashire Chantries, p. 134.



that Ralph Antrobus, priest, is incumbent, and celebrates mass and obsequies, &c. The plate and vestments then belonging to the chantry were a chalice of silver, parcel gilt, of 10 oz., two vestments, &c., two silk curtains for the altar ends, a mass-book, a cruets, and one corporas (the cloth placed between the consecrated elements) with the case.

*Jesus College.* The commissioners report that Roger Okill, George Worrall, and Richard Hide, priests, were incumbents, who by the foundation were bound to celebrate mass daily in that chapel, and to distribute yearly in alms to poor people 20s., and to keep and maintain the choir at divine service. To this college is appropriated a mansion with a garden,<sup>1</sup> an orchard, and a croft, and also the parsonage of Bethom (Westmorland), to the maintenance and supplying of the said incumbents' livings. All these priests are residents, and celebrate, keep, and maintain, and distribute to poor people thereof; which priests, two being fellows (of the College), either receives yearly for salary £6, 13s. 4d. and the third, being called the conduct (conductor), hath for his salary £4, 13s. 4d., all which by the occasion of the large circuit of the said parish, and the Vicar thereof not able to minister to all the same, be enforced often and many times to administer sacraments to the parishioners of the same parish. As to plate and vestments, the commissioners found one silver chalice, weighing 12 oz., eight vestments, three copes, and two tunicles. Of "household stuff" three brass pots, three old brass pans, 13 (lb. weight in) pieces of pewter vessels, a brandreth (for placing over the fire) of iron, two broaches (spits) of iron, one chasen (chased) dish of latten (or brass), one skimmer of latten, one basin with one ewer massyle (a mixed metal), two keirs (a sort of washing-tub) of wood, and three stands of wood. The mansion house (is) situate in the town of Eccles, with one garden, one orchard, and one croft adjoining, containing an acre, worth yearly to let 5s.

<sup>1</sup> Still called Monks Hall.

## VICARS OF ECCLES.

No complete list of the Vicars exists. The earliest we find mentioned, in a deed of Richard le Rymour, is one John, whose surname is not given, but who is therein stated to be Vicar of Eccles in 1284. Another, in 7th Henry V. (1420), was Richard Heywood. The list in Baines's 'Lancashire' begins with the sixteenth century. The earliest name in it is Thomas Wright, who was probably Vicar in the closing years of the fifteenth century. On the 31st Dec. 1504, Thomas Holgate was instituted. Thomas Bowker succeeded him. On Dec. 29th, 1542, Geo. Wereall. June 20th, 1559, Edward Pendleton. Dec. 7th, 1576, Thomas Williamson. May 20th, 1606, John White. Jan. 9th, 1610, John Jones was instituted, and he was succeeded, in 1657, by Edward or Edmund Jones, who was ejected in 1662. In 1663 Robert Hartley was Vicar. The next named is Thomas Isherwood or Usherwood, who was instituted July 27th, 1671. He died on the 17th February 1678. Aug. 24th, 1678, Thos. Hall was instituted. Jan. 10th, 1721, Thos. Chaddock, on Hall's death. Jan. 8th, 1724, Thos. Bell. July 22nd, 1726, Thomas Vaughan. March 9th, 1747, Benjamin Nicholls. June 3rd, 1765, Cudworth Poole. Dec. 27th, 1768, John Crookhall. Oct. 31st, 1792, John Clowes. April 19th, 1818, Thos. Blackburne, M.A. 1837, Wm. Marsden, B.D. Feb. 1861, Jas. Pelham Pitcairn, M.A., Rural Dean, Hon. Canon of Manchester. 1893, The Hon. Arthur Templeton Lyttelton, afterwards Bishop of Southampton. And, lastly, the Rev. Mr Cremer. Since 1678, every Vicar has succeeded on the death of his predecessor.

Connected with the tithes of Eccles, there is a singular tradition to the effect that in the reign of Henry VIII., or in that of his successor (Edward VI.), these tithes became the subject of a bet on a cock-fight, and were won from Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, by Sir J. Anderton of Ince (more properly of Lydiate) in this county. According to

this tradition the tithes were granted to the Duke by his Royal master, Henry VIII. Some time subsequently a cock-fight took place in Westminster, when Sir J. Anderton is said to have produced the first duck-wing cock that was ever fought at a main, with the vaunting challenge—

“There is the jewel of England!  
For a hundred in hand,  
And a hundred in land,  
I’ll fight him against any cock in England!”

The Duke of Suffolk, on finding that Anderton was able to make good his bet, produced another cock, and bet the tithes of Eccles parish as his share of the wager. Anderton won the battle, and thus became possessed of the tithes, and the story adds that he afterward sold them to Sir John Heathcote of Longton, Staffordshire. So much currency has this story obtained that duck-winged cocks are called “Anderton Jewels” in Lancashire to this day. The whole story, however, appears a fabrication (Baines’s ‘Lancashire,’ vol. iii. p. 118).

In 1861, when Canon Pitcairn was appointed to Eccles, it was a delightfully old-fashioned place, before it had been destroyed and spoilt by the builder, and trams rushing everywhere. Thatched cottages in the village, a very old vicarage, with plenty of ground round it, with fine old trees, an ancient church, and very kind and pleasant neighbours, combined to make it an ideal living.

In 1870 a new vicarage was built, far better in every way than the old one (which was in a very tumble-down condition), and a thoroughly good house, but to us children, not our old home.

There were wonderful cellars in the old place, with groined arches. There was a tradition of an underground passage connecting the vicarage with the church.

The house was supposed to be haunted, and the writer can remember, when, as a child, and sent upstairs in the dark to fetch something, being so thankful to get back safely into the lighted drawing-room again.

The vicarage house was described in a terrier of Eccles Glebe, 1663. After mentioning various lands and crofts it went on:—

Item. One orchard, two gardens, and folds lying about the Vicarage house. Total, 13 acres, 3 roods, 20 p.

Item. The Vicarage House, counting divers cross buildings joined together, in which are fifteen rooms—viz., the kitchen, the kitchen parlour, and two chambers over them. The body of the house, the great parlour, the buttery and milk house, with two chambers over them, the parlour in the side of the passage leading from the body of the house to the great parlour, the little parlour and larder, and two chambers over them.

*Note.*—In Mr Blackburne's time (1818-1836) a drawing- and dining-room were added, a square hall and two bedrooms and dressing-room above them.

Item. The Vicarage barn, containing four bays of building.

Item. The cow house, stable, and hay house; the hen house and pig sty.

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The Rev. Thomas Blackburne was Vicar of Eccles from 1818 to 1836, and was living at the vicarage at the time of Mr Huskisson's accident, at the opening of the Manchester and Liverpool Railway, in September 1830, by the Great Duke of Wellington. Mr Huskisson was taken to the vicarage, where he died. The other guests also went there, and tradition states that, everything being naturally in confusion, there being illness in the house as well, they could get nothing to eat. So the Duke and Lord Wilton went to forage for something, and found a leg of mutton in the larder. There was a very large old-fashioned kitchen with an immense fireplace and spit. The Duke of Wellington turned the spit, cooked the mutton, and no doubt was quite equal to the occasion. A vivid picture of life in Eccles, and of the sad incident at the vicarage at this time, is given by the mother of the late Dean Stanley, who, writing to her sister, while on a visit at High Legh in Cheshire, a year or two after Mr Huskisson's death, says:—



There is one person (here) who interests me very much—Mrs Tom Blackburne, the vicarress of Eccles, who received poor Mr Huskisson, and immortalised herself by her activity, sense, and conduct all through. She made one ashamed of the ease and idleness of one's own life compared with hers. They have to deal with such a population—25,000 souls. She has been the ruling spirit, evidently, and under her guidance, and the help of a sound head and heart, her husband has become the very man for the place, with quickness and presence of mind for any sudden emergency; and she describes the people—all Manchester weavers—as grateful and sensitive, far beyond our agricultural experience. He is in general at home to parishioners from 8 to 12 and from 4 to 6 every day, and often fully occupied all the time; but during the four days Mr Huskisson was in the house none of them entered the gates. She asked afterwards why it was, and one of them said, "Eh, we knowed what you were at, and so we did without."

Eccles was famous for its "wakes," or annual fair, so called from the old Saxon word *wæken*, to fast. They were held in the market-place. There is an old stone there, too, with a ring in it, to which in olden times the bull was fastened, when that cruel sport bull-baiting was allowed.

Eccles cakes are widely known to Lancashire folk, and very good they are, something like Banbury cakes, but far better! In our day there were three shops, which disputed the right to be called the old Eccles cake-shop. One had a board over it, "Bradburn, The Old Eccles Cake-Maker, never removed"; the other, on the *opposite* side, had on it, "Birch's, the old Eccles Cake-Maker, removed from the opposite side"; and another, a little lower down, stated that it "was removed from above"!! Eccles was also said to be famous for its beer in the old coaching days. It has far too much of it now, but whether the quality is equal to the quantity, I have no idea.

Eccles was formerly a very pleasant place to live in. It was then considered one of the best of the outskirts of Manchester. The residents were very kind and very hospitable, and most ready in giving to deserving charities. Alas! it is now rapidly losing its rural character. Many

of the old families are dead, or have left the neighbourhood to live elsewhere.

The Norreyses of Davyhulme Hall are dead and gone, and the charming old place is let for building. Trafford Park, too, has been sold to the adventurous builder, and multitudes of small houses are springing up on all sides. The village itself is turned into a Town, with a Mayor; trams constantly ply up and down its streets, and the dear old Eccles I remember so well has vanished; but those who still live there are as kind, as hearty as ever.

“The old order changeth, giving place to new,  
And God fulfils Himself in many ways,  
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.”

## CHAPTER XXIV.

## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES.

DIARY (*continued*).

1861, 22nd Feb., Friday. Went over to the Bishop's<sup>1</sup> at Mauldeth. Very kind, many congratulations.

13th March, Wednesday. Mr Greenhow presented me with pocket communion service.

March 26th, Tuesday. Was to-day "instituted" by the Bishop of Manchester to the Vicarage of Eccles; and on the following day went over to Eccles, with the Rev. Edward Birch, and was "inducted" by him.

31st, Sunday. Went to Eccles by 8.45 train. "Read myself in." Dined and slept at Colonel Bond's.

From JAMES STREET, Esq., Hon. Sec., Manchester Diocesan Church Building Society, Carlton Buildings, Cooper Street, Manchester, to The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles.

4th April 1861.

DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to send you, on the other side, a copy of a Resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee of this Society, held this day.—I am, dear Sir, Yours truly,

JAMES STREET,  
Hon. Sec.

At a quarterly Meeting of the Committee, held on Thursday, the 4th day of April 1861:—

A letter from the Rev. J. P. Pitcairn to the Committee, tendering his resignation as Clerical Secretary to the Society, in conse-

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<sup>1</sup> Bishop J. Prince Lee.

quence of his appointment to the Vicarage of Eccles, having been read—

It was moved by the Lord Bishop, seconded by Mr R. Gladstone, and supported by Mr J. T. Hibbert,<sup>1</sup> and resolved—

That the Committee receives with regret the resignation of the Rev. J. P. Pitcairn, acknowledges his valuable services to the Society, and, while congratulating him on his preferment, expresses a sincere and devout hope that his labours may be largely blessed in the new sphere of usefulness now opened to him.

JAMES STREET,  
*Hon. Sec.*

*7th, Sunday.* Went over to Eccles, opened both schools. Preached my first sermon. Crowded church. Dined with A. Heywood.

Paid farewell visits with Emily on the Bishop, Birch, Anson, Melsheimer, Langworthy, Stewart, Cooke.

*May 15th, Wednesday.* Herbert born at his grandfather's, Mr Turner's. I removed all the furniture from Longsight.

*17th, Friday.* Busy settling furniture. Emily and babe going on well.

*18th.* At Eccles. Slept at the vicarage for the first time.

*5th June, Wednesday.* Emily at last came home, with her infant son and nurse. Dined with "Bythesea" at the mess of his regiment, 1st Royals.

*14th.* "Bythesea" and Brown of the 1st Royals came to dinner, and Mr Turner.

*27th June.* Called on Mr E. Reiss, W. J. Harter, Schuster, Ross, A. Heywood, Sir Humphrey de Trafford.

*4th, Thursday.* Meeting of Parishioners at Vicarage re East Gallery removal and Church Restoration. Went off well.

*Sept. 7th, Saturday.* Visited parish. Lord Ellesmere came to inspect church. British Association Lecture on the Electric Telegraph.

*10th, Tuesday.* Meeting about Clergyman, and Church at Patricroft.

*Sept. 11th.* Marriage of Mr Knowles' daughter. E. and self went to the breakfast.

<sup>1</sup> Sir John T. Hibbert, M.P.



12th. E. and self went with H. MacLaren to the Fête at (British Association) Worsley. Lord and Lady Ellesmere, Lord Powys, Lord Granville, Lady Derby, &c., were there.

30th, *Monday*. Baby christened "Herbert." J. Lane, Mr Henry MacLaren, Robert (not present), sponsors. The MacLarens, Bonds, and Turners to dinner.

Oct. 17th, *Thursday*. The Bonds and Brown of the Royals to luncheon. Canvassing in the morning for the church. Meeting at Patricroft of Committee for the new district in the evening.

18th. Canvassing morning and evening for the church with Hilton.

19th. Canvassing for the church morning and afternoon. Robert came.

24th, *Thursday*. Meeting of ladies about district visiting.

25th, *Friday*. Dined at the Tootals'.

28th, *Monday*. Dined at Colonel Clowes'. Clerical meeting. Jews' Society, Night Class.

2nd. Children got chicken-pox.

Mr Pitcairn's time was at first much taken up visiting his new parishioners, and canvassing for subscriptions for the Restoration of the old Church.

14th *December*. St James's, Hope, in this parish, consecrated. Preached ye consecration sermon.

Prince Albert died at Windsor at 10.50 P.M.

I have quoted the foregoing entries from Mr Pitcairn's Diary, as not only do they show the busy life he led, and how very much he did; but to Manchester people the names mentioned here of the old residents, many of whom are dead, and some who have left to live elsewhere, may be of interest to those still connected with Eccles, who will read this book. It is interesting, too, to Manchester people, as showing the dates of the consecration of the various churches in Canon Pitcairn's parish, and their being made into separate districts.

Prince Albert died on the 14th of Dec. 1861, and on the following Sunday, the 15th, a sermon was preached by Canon Pitcairn on the Prince's death :—

“Surely if ever we can be called on to say and feel as regards the dealings of our God, ‘Thy way is in the sea, and Thy path is in great waters, and Thy footsteps are not known,’ it is now, when the nation has been visited with the most grievous trial, and our beloved Queen has been suddenly plunged into the deepest trouble that can befall her and her family. Of *him* who has been so suddenly removed from his high place and influence for good, and of *her* awful trial, in which every heart of her subjects beats with truest sympathy, as though the blow had fallen on one of our own dearest, and nearest of kin, I cannot well trust myself to speak. As the wise and judicious adviser of our Queen, in her lofty station, the nation's debt to him is incalculable. As the devoted father, training up those who are to fill such responsible stations, he has been a bright example to all parents. As the faithful and loving husband, through twenty-two years of married life, without a breath to sully its purity and blameless devotion, devoted to the happiness and high interest of his Sovereign and his wife, to his children, and his adopted country,—he has certainly, whether of this or of any other country, been unequalled. And is it not a just conclusion, that such a rare combination of Christian virtues and qualities, in so difficult a station, and surrounded with so many temptations, must have had their root in a true and humble allegiance to the King of Kings, and be sustained, as well as prompted, by the Grace of our God and Saviour. And such, doubtless, will be the deepest consolation of our beloved Sovereign in this her great hour of need. Never sat on the throne of these realms a ruler so greatly, so justly, revered and beloved by her people. How much of this deep and affectionate loyalty is due to the guidance of that loving heart now at rest, and to the counsels of that wise tongue now silent! Let us bow,

as becomes us as Christians, beneath the hand of a loving and wise God, albeit His dealings are shrouded in clouds and darkness. Let us pray for her, our widowed Queen, deprived of life's sweetest companion, and at this momentous time of her best adviser. Let us pray for her, and the Royal children, that the consolation, the grace, the strength, and the wisdom which the Lord alone can give may be abundantly vouchsafed, sanctifying even this dark dispensation to their truest welfare, and to the country's good. And let us pray for ourselves, that a warning to us, from its peculiar circumstances and singular nature, so startling and so sudden, so fearfully illustrative of the uncertainty and vanity of this earthly life, at its brightest and best, and when seemingly most secure, may have its everlasting effect, in reminding each of us how entirely we are, for joy or sorrow, health or sickness, life or death, in the hands of God, leading us to watchfulness and prayer, to self-examination of our state in the sight of God, that we may be ready when and wherever our summons shall come. May we be like servants who watch for their Lord's appearing, our faith firmly built in the atonement of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in which is our only plea for pardon and peace, and our lives illustrating the reality of our faith, by a godly and Christian life, fulfilling, unto the Lord, and not to man, the various duties in that state in life into which it has pleased God to call us, thus imitating in our humble spheres the example of him who has gone from us, and like him, it may be, according to our measure and opportunity, leaving behind us a name that will *speak* when we are dead."

*Dec. 31st, 1861.*

#### PARISH CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.

On New Year's eve, 1861, the first tea-meeting of the congregation after Canon Pitcairn's appointment to Eccles was held in the school-room. The number present at the meeting after tea was at least six hundred.

The Vicar in opening the meeting said: It gave him great pleasure to meet his parishioners on that occasion. It was the first time he had had the opportunity of doing so since, in the Providence of God, he was appointed the Vicar of the parish. He trusted he would have the pleasure of seeing them on many occasions, as he expected Eccles would be his home for the remainder of his days.

It was his desire to be a real friend to his parishioners; he considered that he belonged to them. It would be his constant thought to do his parishioners temporal and spiritual good. He would feel no labour too great to be of service to them. He wished them all to look on him as a disinterested friend, and one who would, as their friend and pastor, do them all the good he could. The more he knew of the people of Eccles the better he liked them: he did not make the statement as a mere compliment, but as a sentiment of his heart. He trusted that the parish of Eccles, which had been a parish for 750 years, would soon have schools connected with the noble old church, every way suited for the purposes of education. He was anxious that the children in Eccles should have the best education that could be given to them, for the station in life to which God might call them. The parish had now nine churches in it, and when the district of Weaste, Patricroft, and Irlam were provided for, by new churches, and schools connected with them, its ecclesiastical requirements would be complete. In the spring it was intended to spend some thousands in the improvement of the exterior and interior of the parish church, so as to make it every way worthy of the purpose to which it was devoted, the worship of God and the good of souls. He concluded by wishing those present a very Happy New Year.

DIARY (*continued*).

1862, Jan. 1. Emily went to see her parents, and I called to wish Uncle William a happy New Year.



Our first Christmas and New Year's Day at Eccles. May we enter on this year with thankfulness, humility, and holy fear—remembering the time is short, to do the work given us, so as to glorify our God and Saviour.

*Feb. 8th, Saturday.* At Dudley Vicarage. Dr Philpott, Bishop of Worcester, came to the Vicarage. The next day, *Sunday*, was the reopening of Dudley Parish Church. The Bishop of Worcester preached in the morning. Rev. J. P. Pitcairn in the evening. I went from Dudley to London, breakfasted and lunched with the Roxburghes at the Clarendon, saw Ecclesiastical Commissioners, Queen Anne's Bounty—Charity Commissioners—called on Amelia Freeling. Returned to Eccles on *Thursday*; reached dear home at 8.45; found all well.

*25th, Tuesday.* Finished contracts for church restoration.

*Feb. 26th.* Went with churchwardens to inspect at Cadishead.

*March 3rd, Monday.* Commenced operations at church—went to Committee of Church Building Society in Manchester. Patricroft Church Committee in evening, 7.30.

*8th, Saturday.* Went over to Longsight, laid the foundation-stone of new church at Patricroft.

*19th, Saturday.* Christened Annie's<sup>1</sup> grandchild Anna Sophia Weston, at St Stephen's Church, Chorlton-on-Medlock.

*May 21st, Wednesday.* Summoned with Emily to poor Mrs Turner,<sup>2</sup> found her sinking. (Mr Pitcairn went backwards and forwards from Eccles every day to see his mother-in-law, until her death.)

*June 18th, Wednesday.* Found Mrs Turner much worse. Up most of the night with her.

*19th, Thursday.* Mrs Turner sinking all the day, and breathed her last at 11 P.M. Entering into rest with Christ. E. and I slept at the Kesslers'.

*23rd, Monday.* Went to Birmingham about the church windows, and back at the Park, 8.30, then home.

*25th.* Mrs Turner buried at Eccles at 12.

<sup>1</sup> Mr Pitcairn's sister.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs Pitcairn's mother.

30th, *Monday*. Mr Turner and Miss Adye went back to the Park. Amelia (Luard) Freeling died in Harley Street.

July 2nd, *Wednesday*. Wrote dear Louisa Luard, and George, about dear Amelia's death.

16th, *Wednesday*. Lady Pitcairn, Emmeline, and Harriet Weston came to dinner.

August 12th, *Tuesday*. Left for Beaumaris with Emily and the children, for our summer holiday.

17th, *Sunday*. Heard Dean Trench at the Cathedral, Bangor.

18th, *Monday*. Sailing in small yacht near Puffin Island.

22nd, *Friday*. Went sailing, lunched on board.

23rd, *Saturday*. Fishing with the children.

27th, *Wednesday*. Went to Carnarvon to the Eistedfodd—dull business, all in Welsh.

September 2nd, *Tuesday*. Rabbit-shooting at Penmaen. Dined with Higgins on board the yacht "Ye Ariadne."

5th, *Friday*. Went sailing and fishing in "Ariadne."

6th, *Saturday*. Home 6.30.

The year 1862 was a sad one for Lancashire. It was the year of the cotton famine, and Canon Pitcairn did his utmost with many others in his parish to relieve the distress.

24th, *Wednesday*. Relief Committee of the Lancashire distress in the evening.

25th, *Thursday*. E. and self dined at Sir Humphrey De Trafford's; a very nice party.

27th, *Saturday*. I attended Lord Ellesmere's funeral at Worsley Church.

*Note*.—Mr Pitcairn's uncle, William Pitcairn, was taken ill on the 15th Sept.

Mr Pitcairn went constantly to see him: he got gradually worse, and died on the 11th October. He would have been eighty-one on the 1st December 1862.

October 16th, *Thursday*. To-day at Longsight were interred the earthly remains of my dear uncle. (In sure and certain

hope.) Beecher Fleming, Captain Weston, Miss Reid, Martin, Dowse, Turner, and myself attending.

27th, *Monday*. Left by 11.15 train for Floors Castle; arrived at 9 P.M.; large party in the house.

28th, *Tuesday*. I married, at Kelso Episcopal Church, Lady Charlotte Isabella Innes Ker to George Russell. *Déjeuner*, and large dinner-party in the evening.

29th, *Wednesday*. Gave the bride a gold brooch. Some of the party left; large dinner-party, enjoyed it very much; kindness of all everything I could wish.

31st, *Friday*. Left Floors at 10. Reached home at 8.30 after a very pleasant visit, found Arthur [his second son] very ill.

22nd *November, Saturday*. Went to Mauldeth at 11; lunched with the Bishop, who, with Mrs Lee, was most kind.

28th, *Friday*. Election for Barton Church; we appointed Rev. T. L. Connell. Arthur Latham made the new trustee.

*December 2nd, Tuesday*. County Meeting in Manchester on behalf of distress. Dick Luard<sup>1</sup> to dinner.

1863, *Jan. 12th, Monday*. The Roxburghes came on a visit.

13th, *Tuesday*. Went to Manchester with the Duke to call on the Bishop at the Registry. The Dean of Manchester to dinner.

15th, *Thursday*. The Roxburghes left us, to our great regret.

*From The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev. J. P. PITCAIRN,  
Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.*

LONDON, *January 20th*.

MY DEAR JAMES,—I did not mean four whole days to elapse without writing to you! Illness has prevented my doing so till to-day.

Let me tell you how much, and how affectionately, R. and I have thought of you all since we parted from you—dear Emily's kind last kiss is often recalled. I think much of *all* "the girls (and boys

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<sup>1</sup> General Richard Luard.

too) I left behind me!" You have a very sweet family, my dear cousin, and I trust God will bless you and your dear *good* wife with many years of happiness and comfort.

Alas! the woodcocks had been sent up here—and were not fit for a 3rd *trip*.

And now, my dear James, good-bye. Very kind love to your dear wife, and *all* the darling children.—And believe me, Your very affectionate Cousin,

S. ROXBURGHE.

Relief Committees still continued to be formed for the Lancashire distress, and Mr Pitcairn took a most active part in them.

"*March 10th.* The Prince of Wales married to Princess Alexandra of Denmark. Went with 28th Regiment of Volunteers to Peel Park [as Chaplain], and went in the evening to the Illuminations."

"The great renovation and restoration of the church was now completed, for which Mr Pitcairn had collected £6000.

"The church was re-roofed, floored, lighted, and ventilated anew. The old vestry was converted into the West Porch, and filled with mural monuments; a new vestry was built out on the north side of the chancel. The new chapel of St Katharine built out, on the old site, on the south side. Several memorial windows of stained glass were put in. The open seats rearranged, and new seats erected in St Katharine's Chapel. A new font erected at the west end of the chancel. The old organ removed from the West Gallery. A new large and fine organ, built by Hill & Son, London, placed on the floor of the Church, on the south side, between the Bridgewater Chapel and St Katharine's Chantry. The whole interior cleaned, painted, and re-furnished."<sup>1</sup>

*March 14th, 1863.* The church was reopened after its restoration. The sermon was preached by the Right Rev. James Prince Lee, D.D., Bishop of Manchester, from 1 Thess. v. 8-10. On Sunday, March 15, other opening sermons were preached by the Very Rev. Dr Bowers, Dean

<sup>1</sup> Church Notes, 'Eccles Advertiser,' by J. T. Harland, F.A.S.







ECCLES CHURCH,  
A.D. 1111.

of Manchester, and the Rev. James Bardsley, M.A. The collections at the three services on Saturday and Sunday amounted to £162.

The expenditure was necessarily very large. The total value of offerings, in money and materials, amounted to £6000.

DIARY (*continued*).

*Sat., March 14, 1863.* At the reopening service in the afternoon of Saturday, the Bishop preached. Large party of clericals to luncheon. Collections, £83, os. 4d. All went off excellently well.

*Sunday, 15th.* The Dean preached in the morning, £51. Rev. James Bardsley in the evening, £27; excellent congregations.

On *April the 11th, Saturday*, I assisted at the laying of the stone of the new Church of Brindle Heath, Pendleton, in this parish.

*13th, Monday.* Dined at Charles Hickson's to meet the "Canons of St Paul's"—*i.e.*, clergy who have lectured there.

*May 8th, Monday.* Went to London.

*9th and 10th.* Breakfasted and lunched at the Clarendon, and went with S. Roxburghe to the uncovering of the Statue of Prince Albert in the Horticultural Gardens. Dined with Robert.<sup>1</sup> *11th, Thursday.* Busy seeing people, *re* the Church Building Consolidation Bill. *12th, Friday.* Went to the Exhibition of Paintings. Breakfasted with the George Russells (Lady Charlotte). *13th, Saturday.* Home at 4.

*Oct. 13th, Tuesday.* Church Congress opened. Sermon at 11 at the Cathedral by Dr Hook. Congress began at 2. E. and self dined at the Deanery.

*15th, Thursday.* Congress. Dined at the Tootals', to meet the Bishop of Oxford. The Congress is closed.

*Nov. 16th, Monday.* Mary Luard left us. I dined at the Deanery to meet Lord Wilton and party. *25th, Wednesday.* Mr Critchley died at Lowndes Square, London.

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Pitcairn.

1864, *March 7th, Monday*. I took the chair at a meeting *re* Drainage and Board of Health.

8th, *Tuesday*. Saw the Bishop *re* Swinton Church,<sup>1</sup> and with his full approval I appointed the Rev. Henry Heywood to Swinton as Incumbent.

22nd, *Tuesday*. Completed at the Registry the severance of St John's, and Christ Church, Pendlebury, from my parish.

Nov. 10th, *Thursday*. Went with J. Dugdale, jun., to James Dugdale's, Wroxhall Abbey, Warwickshire.

11th, *Friday*. Shot over the covers, the three Dugdales, Rev. Mr Torre, and self.

12th, *Saturday*. Shot again to-day, same party. Both lovely days.

The following year Mr Pitcairn and his wife had the great sorrow of losing their little girl, to whom they were devotedly attached.

She had had diphtheria in 1864, and never really recovered her strength.

1865, *January*. Mr Pitcairn's little girl, Louie, was taken very ill on the 6th of January. On the 19th, Thursday, there was a consultation with their own doctor, Mr Hepworth, and Mr Beevor. On the 22nd, Sunday, he writes in his Diary: Louie still the same, said all her prayers and hymns, "Happy, happy, happy there to dwell." In the morning she said all her hymns and prayers, and said, "I should like to be an angel, and go to Jesus."

23rd, *Monday*. Dear Louie much weaker, and said to her mother, "Good-bye; I shall die soon; give my baby-house to C. and M." Mr Hepworth (the doctor) slept here for the last five nights.

25th, *Wednesday*. This morning at 3.15 our precious child fell asleep in Jesus. "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

His little girl was very sweet and lovely, and of a beautiful disposition. Her death was a terrible blow to her parents.

<sup>1</sup> Swinton Church is in the gift of the Vicars of Eccles.



*30th, Monday.* This morning our darling child Louie was laid to rest in the grave in Eccles churchyard, where her grandmother lies. "In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life."

*Feb. 14th, Tuesday.* My forty-fourth birthday. E. and the children gave me a ring with my darling Louie's hair.

*28th, Tuesday.* Went to London about school and other business by 4.15 train. Went down to the House of Commons, and heard a debate.

*29th, Wednesday.* Went with A. Egerton to P. Council Office to see the Vice-President, and took the School Plans, &c. I think all will be right. Lunched with S. Roxburghe at Clarendon. Saw Lady Charlotte and Louisa Luard.

*30th, Thursday.* Breakfasted with Susan and Duke. Lunched at Charlotte's, and saw her most sweet baby. Saw the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and Charity Commissioners. Went home next day.

*27th March.* Edward Reiss married by the Rev. H. Morgan and self at Eccles Church. Breakfasted at the Potters', 400 children entertained by Mrs Reiss, at Broom House. Admirable.

*28th, Friday.* Dined at the Deanery. Mrs Reiss gave a dinner in the school to 190 old persons, sixty years and upwards.

*Note.*—Mr Pitcairn had another great sorrow this year, in the sudden death of his much-loved sister Annie, Mrs Lane.

*May 20th, Saturday.* Telegram to say my best, and best beloved sister, and friend, and to me for years a mother, is taken. "She was indeed ready to depart and be with Christ." Left for Cork.

*23rd, Tuesday.* Saw my beloved sister, as if in sleep, as she indeed sleeps in Jesus: to her it has been, as it were, a translation. Poor James [her husband] and Harriet and Jem [her children], their loss is awful.

*29th, Monday.* Went to see his sister Eliza at Thomas-

town Rectory, Kilkenny [Archdeacon Gorman's]. He says of them: "Here is a sweet picture of quiet and tranquil happiness—a beautiful illustration of the truth, "A man's happiness consisteth not in the abundance," &c. On Friday I left this peaceful and happy Christian home sorrowfully at 2. Arrived once more at our own dear home at 12; the children met us, all well.

*August 4th, Friday.* I laid foundation-stone of the New Parish Schools. Presented with a silver trowel by J. Dugdale in the name of the Committee. School Tea-party, &c.

*5th, Saturday.* Consecration of St Luke's Church, Weaste. Lunched at Tootal's, and preached the Consecration Sermon.

*15th, Tuesday.* Dined at Milne's, Ratcliffe Rectory, to meet Dr Durnford (Bishop of Chichester), Canon Hornby, and the Clerical Club.

*August 16th, Wednesday.* Laid the foundation-stone of St John the Baptist Church, at Irlam. Presented with silver trowel by Trustees. [This was also in the parish of Eccles.]

*October 26th, Thursday.* Book-Hawking Meeting in Manchester. Bishops of Manchester, Lichfield, and Rochester spoke.

*27th, Friday.* Meeting in Manchester *re* Hawaiian Mission; Queen Emma of the Sandwich Islands there. Bishops of Manchester, Rochester, Oxford, and Lichfield spoke. Emily, E., and self went.

1866, *January 13th.* Went to London to marry Lord Charles Innes Ker to Miss Blanche Williams. Stayed at the Clarendon with the Roxburghes.

*Sunday, 14th.* Went to church to John Street Chapel. Such a cold heartless service. Went to see the Williams family with the Duchess, in Berkeley Square. Family gathering of the Roxburghes at dinner. The Duke and Duchess's children and their husbands, the Miss Okells, Georgina Dalton, and self.

*15th January.* The happy couple were married by me at St George's, Hanover Square, at 11.45. Breakfast at the Williams'. Dined with Jim Suttie.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Grant Suttie.

*17th, Wednesday.* Called at the Lord Chancellor's Office; also on Martin at the Temple. Dined at the Clarendon.

*18th, Thursday.* Bought jewellery for Emily and the two girls. Reached dear home at 8.30. A very delightful visit. All most kind.

*March 7th, 1866.* Went as Chaplain to the breakfast at the High Sheriff's (Sir E. Armitage), then to Lancaster and met the Judges, Mellor and Lush. Grand Jury dinner.

*8th, Thursday.* Attended the Judges' Courts, &c. Dined with the Judges to meet the Grand Jury.

*9th, Friday.* Attended Courts, returned with the High Sheriff, reached the vicarage at 5.30.

*11th, Sunday.* Preached at the Cathedral in the morning before the Judges, and at my own church in the evening.

*12th, Monday.* Dined with High Sheriff to meet Grand Jury. On the *13th*, dined with the Mayor of Manchester to meet the Judges. On the *14th*, lunched with the Judges: went over Copper Works with Judge Lush and his wife. Home at 5.30.

*16th, Friday.* Dined with the Judges and High Sheriff, &c., at Sir J. Watts's, Abney Hall. *24th, Saturday.* Went with the High Sheriff and Judges to Liverpool to open the Commission. Stayed with the High Sheriff at the Adelphi.

*25th, Sunday.* Preached before the Judges, Mayor, &c., at St Peter's, Liverpool.

*26th, Monday.* Attended the Courts. Dined with the Judges to meet the Grand Jury.

*27th, Tuesday.* Dined with the Mayor to meet the Judges.

*28th.* Dined with the High Sheriff to meet the Grand Jury. *29th, Thursday.* Returned to my own dear home; tired of Chaplain's attendance.

*May 28th.* Had a telegram that Mr Turner is very ill.

*Note.*—Mr and Mrs Pitcairn went at once to Bradford-on-Avon, and stayed with her father, Mr Turner, until he died on the 8th June 1866.

*July 11th, Wednesday.* Consecration of St John's, Irlam. I preached the sermon. Drove the Bishop there. He

came back to luncheon with us—Tonge,<sup>1</sup> Burder,<sup>2</sup> 2 Dales, Syddall, &c. [This was another of the churches in the parish of Eccles which was made into a separate district.]

*Sept. 19th.* Opening of Eccles Parish Church New Schools. Very successful.

*Note.*—Canon Pitcairn also collected the money for building these large schools.

*Sept. 20th.* General tea-party. Went off well; in the two days had more than 1200 to tea.

He again attended as Chaplain to the High Sheriff at Liverpool and Manchester, preaching the Assize Sermon in the morning at the Cathedral, on the 9th of December. He says: "My Chaplain's duties are over, to my great delight."

The new Schools were very well designed, large and airy, with large playgrounds. A large Girls' school, Boys' school, and Infants' school, as well as three large classrooms.

*Note.*—When the Hon. Arthur Lyttelton, the late Bishop of Southampton, was appointed to Eccles after Canon Pitcairn's death in 1892, he also added to the Schools, so that now the old Parish Church of Eccles has schools fitted for all modern requirements, and up to date in every way.

*19th, Saturday.* Lady Charles Innes Ker presented Lord Charles with a son, and the Roxburghes with a grandson.

*1867. 22nd January.* Dined at Tom Potter's, to meet Lord and Lady Amberley, and John Bright.

*25th March.* E. and I dined at Blacklock's, to meet Lord and Lady Caithness.

*26th.* Lunched at Blacklock's, went to opening of Working Men's Club at Pendleton by Lord Caithness.

<sup>1</sup> Canon Tonge.

<sup>2</sup> Mr Burder, the Bishop's secretary.



## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES. 299

*From* The Lady C. L. RUSSELL, in reference to her Mother's Accident, to The Rev. JAMES PITCAIRN, Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.

KELSO, *April 19th, 1867,*  
*Friday.*

MY DEAR JAMES,—My mother is, I am thankful to say, going on quite well, and the Dr says there is no cause for anxiety ; but she has had a severe shake, and one (if not two) ribs are broken. She was thrown with great violence on her right side. Blanche's face is severely cut, not deeply fortunately, and her arm and shoulder much bruised, but she is doing perfectly well. We have much cause for thankfulness in things being no worse.

My mother's best love ; of course she will be quite crippled for a time, as it is her right side and arm.

I hope you are all well. Little George and I came here more than a week ago, and G. arrives on Wednesday. Susan's love with mine,—I remain, Yours very affectionately,

CHARLOTTE L. RUSSELL.

*June 5th, Thursday.* Our School Procession through the village—671 boys and girls, 54 teachers.

*8th August.* Preached Annual Sermon *re* Cheetham College at the Cathedral, and dined with the Feoffees at the College after.

*Note.*—This is a most interesting old place. Founded by Sir Humphrey Cheetham in Queen Elizabeth's time, it is the oldest building in Manchester.

*9th, Friday.* Dined at the Tootals', to meet the Judges. Judges Bovill and Smith, and the High Sheriff.

*7th October.* Went to Floors by 9.20 train, arrived 7 P.M. All very kind.

*8th, Tuesday.* Shooting. R. Prescott, Bowmont, W. Dyke, M.P., and self.

*9th, Wednesday.* Shoot.

*10th.* Floors.

*11th.* Floors.

*12th.* Floors. George Russell saw Willy's<sup>1</sup> name in Lord John Russell's list for Charterhouse.

*13th, Sunday.* Went to the kirk.

<sup>1</sup> His eldest son.

14th, *Monday*. Left Floors after very pleasant visit. Reached Thomas Potter's, Pitnacree, at 7. Met the Thomas Fairbairns, Miss Cobden, Miss Husband, &c.

15th. Shooting.

16th. Spent day on the moors.

18th. Shot with T. Potter; went to Perth. Slept at the "Queen's" Hotel.

19th. Left Perth at 8.15, reached Worsley Station at 5. Milly and carriage met me. Home—dear home again.

26th, *Saturday*. Confirmation at Eccles. 558 confirmed.

July 20th, *Tuesday*. Took Edith and Lily to the Agricultural Show; saw the Prince and Princess well—so did Emily and the children at Worsley. Emily, Edith, and self went to Worsley Hall [Lord Ellesmere's] in the evening to meet the Prince and Princess of Wales,—very good.

Dec. 31st, *Friday*. Went to the funeral of the Bishop at Heaton Mersey.

The Bishop (Prince Lee) was a very able man, and a great scholar. He had formerly been Head-Master of the Birmingham Grammar School, and many of his pupils became very celebrated.

He was stern, and perhaps treated his clergy too much like schoolboys to be kept in order; but to the writer's father he was always a most kind and helpful friend, and no doubt many others of the old Manchester clergy could say the same. The one great blot on his otherwise fine character was his severity to his daughter for marrying against his wishes.

Bishop Fraser succeeded him, and was exactly the opposite type of man. Pleasant, kindly, friendly with all classes and all denominations, he was a great favourite, and did a great work in Manchester. He was beloved and looked up to both by high and low; but as the history of his life has been published already, there is no need for me to dilate further on the good he did in Manchester, nor on his wonderful power of work, or on his deep religious feelings, for it is all so well known.

In 1872 the Bishop made Mr Pitcairn Rural Dean, and

his first meeting was on *January 29th*. "Ruri-decanal meeting of Beneficed Clergy to luncheon. Attended clerical meeting in Manchester."

*February 4th, Sunday*. Bishop Fraser preached at Eccles for Hospitals, collection £60. To meet the Bishop at the vicarage—Emil Reiss, John Pearce, the Fred Schusters. Vast congregation. Admirable sermon.

*March 19th, Tuesday*. Combined clerical meeting at St Saviour's School. I had to open the subject—"Defence of ye Church." *20th, Wednesday*. Went to Warrington Diocesan Training Schools Committee—Bishops of Manchester and Chester there. Choir meeting in the evening.

*July 25th, Thursday*. Willy went to school; I slept at Ryde. The following day I took a carriage to Osborne. Two hours with Susan Roxburghe. Lovely place, and I saw the Queen.

*November 12th, Tuesday*. I went to Worsley to meet the Bishop, introducing Lord Mulgrave, the new incumbent, to the Worsley people. On *Dec. 16th, Monday*, I went to see the Bishop *re* St Thomas', Pendleton;<sup>1</sup> decided with his advice to offer it to Doyle. [It became vacant a second time in Canon Pitcairn's lifetime, and he gave it then to Mr Gull.]

An amusing letter about Oxford:—

*From the Rev. M. H. LEE, Stoke Brueme Rectory.*

THURSDAY, *January 15th, 1874.*

DEAR RECTOR,—Though I set off with the fullest intention of being back by the early train on Friday morning, they are so pressing, and have arranged feeds, &c., that they have over-persuaded us into Saturday. I hope it will not inconvenience you in any way. I shall be in Manchester by 12, and shall come up at once, in case there should be any occasional duty for the afternoon. We reached Blisworth all safe on Tuesday, and then I proceeded alone to Oxford, having by mistake only 3s. in my pocket. Most fortunately, in the carriage I got into there was a Scotch "Cozen" of ours, who had been in the train from Crewe without our knowing it. Oxford looked most melancholy: not a soul in it but shop-

<sup>1</sup> The living of St Thomas', Pendleton, is in the gift of the Vicars of Eccles.

boys trying to come the University dodge—which, of course, was detected with half an eye.

The Vice-P. came up from town to present, and set me at work upon the Articles the minute I came in—there being only  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour to read them all. I was getting slightly pumped for breath at the 7th, when two more came in, and we read them off, with 2 mins. to spare.

There was a man taking his D.D., and the custom is for them to sit in the Divinity School from 6.30 till 9.30 A.M., that if any members of Alma Mater question their orthodoxy they may go and *reason* with them. The only comfort this poor man had was the offer of a coat by the Vice-Chancellor that would reach down to his heels. He looked very blue at 10 o'clock when we all came comfortably from our breakfasts.

I asked the V.P. about your uncles, so we went into the Common-room and had a look. Of course the Calendars that are published yearly only go back to the beginning of this century; but in some other big vol. we found two of your name—viz.:

Robert Pitcairne of Balliol, B.A., 1768.

William do., D.M. by diploma, April 10th, 1789.

Robert may have migrated from Brazenose to Balliol, but William's degree seems honorary. Perhaps he never took the usual degree; but, when he became a swell, they gave him an honorary one, as they do at Commemorations now every year: *par exemple*, Lord Derby, who never took his degree, but is now D.C.L., &c.

With our very kind regards to Mrs Pitcairn, who has recovered her fatigue, I hope, and to your uncle,—I am, yours very truly,

M. H. LEE.

May 8th 1874. Edith and Connie went to stay at Floors.

May 20th, Wednesday. Edith and Connie returned from Floors.

In October 1874 Mr Pitcairn had a very severe illness for four months, and it was not until the 28th of March that he could take any duty.

#### DIARY—continued.

1875, 28th March. Went to church for the first time since November last year. What shall I render unto the Lord for all His mercies? I read the Epistle.

April 11th, Sunday. He says: "In God's mercy and goodness I was able to preach again for the first time since the last Sunday in October."



*August 14th, Saturday.* The church, for which he had collected so much money, was reopened after it was restored for the *second* time. It had all the whitewash scraped off from the walls and pillars; a beautiful new reredos put in; but Mr Pitcairn was still ill, and not able to be there. He says: "Lord Mulgrave<sup>1</sup> preached in the afternoon, I upstairs in bed, great disappointment."

*November 4th, Thursday.* Diocesan Conference. Lunched with Hibbert<sup>2</sup> at the Prince's Club. I opened subject of Augmentation of small benefices, and moved a resolution on the "Burials' Bill." The Conference passed off well on the whole.

Mr Pitcairn was now offered an Honorary Canonry in Manchester Cathedral by Bishop Fraser, in a most kind and appreciative letter.

*1879, January 7th, Tuesday.* Older scholars' tea-party. Presentation of address by the teachers and scholars to the vicar on being appointed to an Honorary Canonry. Presentation of gold pencil-case from Girls' Friendly Society Associates also.

*Feb. 14th, Friday.* I am fifty-eight years of age to-day. How rapidly do the years flow on to the Eternal Shore! "Be thou also ready."

*May 2nd, Friday.* Went off by night train at 12.25 to St Boswells, to attend the Duke of Roxburghe's funeral.

*3rd, Saturday.* At St Boswell's station met the Hon. A. Yorke, Equerry to Prince Leopold. Went to the funeral at Bowden, in the Eildon Hills.

*4th, Sunday.* Came on to Carlisle by night train, slept at the Station Hotel, and again to-night. Went to Carlisle Cathedral, morning and evening, and heard Dean Close preach (he is over eighty).

*5th, Monday.* Reached home 1.30. Confirmation at Eccles Church. Herbert<sup>3</sup> confirmed.

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Worsley, and afterwards Canon of Windsor; now Lord Normanby.

<sup>2</sup> Sir John Hibbert, M.P.

<sup>3</sup> Canon Pitcairn's youngest son.

The death of the good Duke of Roxburghe was a great blow to Canon Pitcairn.

His cousin the Duchess had ever been one of his kindest and best friends, and his correspondence with her, which lasted for years without a break until about a week before his last illness, was without exaggeration one of the greatest pleasures of his life. For her sake he felt the Duke's death very keenly; but also he sorrowed deeply himself, as having lost one who had invariably been kind, always the same, and who had done so much for him too.

The Duke had a most beautiful character, and was absolutely simple and unostentatious. The following quotation from a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr Buchanan, minister of Dunbar at the time, May 3, 1879, will give better than I can tell a record of his blameless life, and of the Duchess's ideal character:<sup>1</sup>—

#### DUNBAR.

There are few occurrences which have cast a greater gloom over Dunbar and the surrounding district than the lamented death of the Duke of Roxburghe. Among all classes of the community there has been a feeling of intense sorrow for one who was so kind and considerate to all with whom he came into contact. His close connection with the district as a landlord, and the many kind actions with which his name is associated, had made it a household word. On Sunday a funeral sermon was preached in the parish church by the Rev. Mr Buchanan.

Mr Buchanan took for his text Rev. xiv. 13—"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." I am very sure that you will all at once agree with me when I say that in the character of the late Duke of Roxburghe there was a conspicuous combination of beautiful features, which it is not only pleasing to bear in affectionate remembrance, but which it would be hurtful to the best parts of our own natures, and very much to our loss in every way, to allow ourselves easily to forget. His picture is, I am certain, already hung up in the most sacred corner of many a heart, and it will hang there until that heart shall cease to beat. Born to great estates and one of the proudest

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<sup>1</sup> From the 'Kelso Courier' of May 9.



By Sir F. Grant, P.R.A.

HIS GRACE, THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE K.T.





titles of the land, he administered his large affairs always under a high sense of duty, and with the most careful consideration for the interests of others, even the humblest; he bore the honours of the highest social position with singular modesty, unaffected simplicity, and an unfailing grace and courtesy, that everywhere reached and conquered the hearts of all; and he has handed down his escutcheon to his natural successor—the son he loved, and who deserves to be loved—pure, unsullied, and untarnished. His tenantry on his large estates will indorse my words when I say that he has not left behind him in the land a better, a kinder, or a more considerate landlord. Ministers of religion, and those who are at the head of municipal affairs, will unite in bearing one unvarying testimony, that he was always ready to give his sympathy, his influence, and his contributions to every scheme or movement that had for its object the religious, the moral, or the social well-being of the people. I hardly know how to paint the picture of the man amidst the privacy of his own beautiful home. The tenderest of husbands, the most affectionate of fathers, the kindest and most considerate of masters, the most true and genial and lovable of friends, he has, by his thorough humanity and goodness, embalmed his memory in thousands of hearts, never to be effaced until those hearts shall cease to be. If I were asked to explain the secret springs of a character that commanded such universal esteem and so much loving respect, I should say without hesitation that the secret lay in a twofold element that was largely represented in the man—his thorough human feeling in relation to things human on the one hand, and his profound reverence in relation to things divine on the other. I never knew a man that was more thoroughly human. I never knew a more profound reverential spirit, in the highest and truest sense of the word. These were the secret springs of his power, and of his great and irresistible attractiveness; and these noble features of the man I plead with you, for your own highest good, to hold for ever in affectionate remembrance. His coronet, his high social position, and his great possessions had less to do with matters of loveliness and irresistible attractiveness than you are apt to suppose. It was the man, with his fine heart and nature, that threw lustre upon the coronet, and not the coronet that threw lustre upon the man. Coronets, and high social position, and great possessions may overawe people, and keep them sometimes at a respectful distance; but they cannot inspire love and reverence and devoted affection. Because he had the twofold element of genuine humanity and profound religious reverence deeply embedded in his original constitution with which he came into this world; because he clung to them, and strove to give them free play through life as the noblest of his possessions

from God, the good Duke, who has gone to his rest, and whose loss we this day so very deeply deplore, would have been a man to be loved, respected, and imitated in whatever sphere in life it had been his fate to be born. My brethren, whilst we mourn deeply the loss of the departed, let us remember also the sorrow-stricken hearts he has left in the deepest loneliness behind, and let us send up our united prayer to the Great Consoler that they all may be abundantly comforted by Him who alone in such circumstances can comfort. Especially let us remember the utterly prostrate partner of his lot through life—one of the very noblest, truest, purest, and most tender of women—one whose unnumbered deeds of charity are known wherever her name is known—one who, on account of her many graces, stands high in the esteem of our beloved Queen, and also high in the affections of simple peasant girls. Let us hope and pray that she may be sustained and strengthened in her unspeakable bereavement, and enabled, with all the sorrow-stricken members of her family, to feel that He who holds us all in the hollow of His hand is bringing about all things—even the dark things—not only in irresistible power, but also in wisdom, mercy, and unspeakable love.

#### FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE.

Last Saturday afternoon the sad and solemn ceremonies of burial were performed over the body of the late Duke of Roxburghe, and he was consigned to that vault in Bowden Church, where sleep that "sleep which knows no waking" the ancestors of the ducal house for the last three hundred years. There, in that dark and dismal vault, in the quiet and picturesque little church, now rest twenty-five members of the ducal family, many of them men who have played a prominent part in the history of their country, and who have adorned the high honours they had achieved; but none of them more beloved and respected, more admired and honoured, than the last tenant of that little aisle. Few who have occupied the exalted position which the late Duke held for so many years, or who have been so early left without paternal guardianship and advice, can point back for more than half a century to a career unsullied by even one dishonourable action, or upon whom the breath of scandal has not dared to make itself felt. Yet such has been the career of the departed nobleman. It is adorned by many an act of princely munificence and Christian benevolence, while at the same time honourable and just, simple yet dignified. Although taking no prominent part in public matters—although living comparatively retired and secluded—still did his noble virtues shine forth, and shed a lustre upon his

name which will never, among those who knew him, be allowed to fade away. Many, we are sure, would feel, if they did not exclaim—

“ Could not the grave forget thee, and lay low  
Some less majestic, less beloved head ? ”

FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE.

SLOWLY the sad procession moved,  
That bore to his resting-place  
The honoured son of an honoured name,  
The son of a noble race.

As slowly from the Castle gate  
The mournful *cortège* crept  
That bore him from his lordly home,  
Full many a strong man wept.

They bore him on by the silver Tweed—  
'Twas a sad and sorrowful sight,—  
A radiant flood of sunshine bathed  
The Roxburghe woods in light.

Still onward they bore him, onward still ;  
All past the fair demesne  
That had owned him for its rightful lord,  
Still followed the funeral train.

On through the peaceful country, on,  
While the toll of a village bell  
At intervals startles the stillness  
With a solemn funeral knell.

Onward, and on they bore him,  
In heavy sorrow the while,  
Till the weary march was over,  
And in Bowden's lonely aisle

They left him to his long, last sleep—  
Him they had held so dear ;  
Oh ! many a bitter tear was dropt  
On noble Roxburghe's bier.

And many a heart in anguish bow'd  
O'er the illustrious grave,  
In parting homage to his worth—  
The generous and the brave.

H. C. W.

*From The DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, on the Death of his Father,  
to The Rev. JAMES PITCAIRN.*

FLOORS, *Sunday, May 11, 1879.*

MY DEAR PITCAIRN,—Now that my poor father's funeral is over, I must send you a few lines to thank you for your very kind letter of sympathy, and for the kind expressions of condolence for us all contained in it.

You, who knew him so well, and knew how uniformly kind and gentle he was to all and every one, will be the more able to understand how heavy the trial is, it has pleased God to send on us all, and how hard it seems to bear his loss. But we must just pray to Him for strength to be able to do so. My mother is bearing up wonderfully, and though weak and crushed, is better than I could have hoped for.—I am, Yours affectionately, BOWMONT.

It is perhaps not out of place to allude here to the late Duchess. She had indeed a most lovable and beautiful nature.

Always bright, and interested in other people's doings, always kind and loving, she was one of the most unselfish of women. She took infinite personal trouble if she thought she could do any one a kindness.

Full of fun and witty sayings, without an ill-natured word, very warm-hearted and sincerely religious, no wonder she was beloved by her husband, children, and grand-children, and that all who were honoured by her friendship were devoted to her. Her servants, who passed their lives in her service, adored her.

The world to the writer has seemed the colder since her death: her great kindness will never be forgotten, and she has left a blank that time has never filled.

She had her trials—as who in this world has not?—but she bore them with Christian fortitude and patience. Her intense love and loyalty to the late Queen are well known, and her Majesty's kindness to her, through the many years the Duchess served her as Mistress of the Robes and Lady in Waiting, was very great, and unfailing to the end. The Queen had, I venture to say, no more devoted servant than Susan Stephania, Duchess of Roxburghe.





By the Hon<sup>ble</sup> H. Graves,

HER GRACE, THE DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE,



## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES. 309

*From The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev. JAMES PELHAM  
PITCAIRN, Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.*

FLOORS, *May 22nd, 1879.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—I am utterly crushed and miserable, the light of my life and of my heart gone—and though I did not think *anything* could add to my grief, my dearest Bowmont (since the day after his precious Father's funeral, lying ill of typhoid fever). It overwhelms me, and I am naturally knocked up in body. I cannot bear not to tell you myself, however, how touched I have been by the respect you paid to him, who was unequalled. How I thank you *all* for your affection—your dear Edith for her kind lines, and you for your prayers for me. It would be kind if you would thank your dear sister Eliza for a touching note. Indeed I *cannot* write. She and you will understand. Bowie is doing well, we are apprised. God bless you!—I am, Your most affectionate and broken-hearted Cousin,

S. ROXBURGHE.

P.S.—Forty-two years of perfect happiness I thank God for.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev. CANON  
PITCAIRN, Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.*

BROXMOUTH, *October 2nd, 1879.*

IF you have read the absurd paragraph about *Bowmont* (Bowmont to us *all* for ever), my dearest James, you will like to hear that though thrown roughly out of his dogcart on Kelso stones, he is *not* "seriously injured," though stiff and bruised, and his hand cut. Thank God, it is no worse. Then, my dear kind cousin, you are right; I slept better and felt better in health from the great effort I made to see poor dear Ishee.<sup>1</sup> She is a pattern of patience and cheerfulness, but a *cripple*, has not been out for a year, and once in bed cannot turn, suffering great pain *constantly*. She took a little house opposite for the four days I was there, so Charlotte, George, and I were *quite quiet*. I also spent three hours with dear Louisa, who spoke most warmly of you, and I slept coming home at my mother's very old cousin's, Miss Dalton, like Louisa, 81½. It was a *hard* week. But I have since Tuesday Charlotte and her little girl here. George follows. Her best love. She says, "We never forget him"! I told you, I think, that both my boys are at school? So I am *doubly glad* of my Charlotte.

I like to think you pray for me! Dearest James, much love to you all.—Yours most affectionately,

S. R.

<sup>1</sup> Miss Okell, a cousin of the late Duke's.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev. CANON PITCAIRN, Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.*

BROXMOUTH, *Sunday Evening, Nov. 16, 1879.*

I HAVE been very unwell, my dearest James, or I should have told you sooner that I have been *deeply interested* in Mr Lyttelton's book. It cannot make me *sure*—who is? But I *feel* all he says, and most firmly believe in the “intermediate state,” when I confidently believe earthly sin is wiped away, and the good and pure nature perfected. I could not pray, if I did not pray for the soul of my darling, as feeling *one* with him still, and God will not blame me, nor take from me the small ray of comfort it gives me. I dare say you will think me unorthodox, but I speak the truth as to my doubts and fears, and I humbly pray for light. I also warmly agree with Mr L. as to work. Thank God I do, for I am so constituted that to me work (when well) is my *only resource*, and as Mr L. says, in the highest sense, “Laborare est orare.” When incapacitated the other day I felt a sort of despair, so wretchedly do our minds depend on our frail bodies. I am at work again, however, had the Communion in the Ch. of S. *last* Sunday, and have just returned from walking to Ch. and Sunday School and back. I am now quite alone, for my dearest Charlotte & Co. got back to Paris yesterday. I have had visits (both from Preston Grange) from Robert Prescott and Georgie Dalton. Dear Bowie and Annie were over for a night, and have been with Susan. Both very well, he looking far better since his fever. This week my sweet grandchild,<sup>1</sup> her husband, and my fine *Great-grandson*<sup>2</sup> come here on their way to London.

Now let me some day hear of you all, and give your dear wife and girls my kind love. Tell me of your absent boys.—And be sure that I am, Yours most affectionately, S. ROXBURGHE.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to  
The Rev. CANON PITCAIRN.*

*May 8th, 1880.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—I am not very well, and this last fortnight could not fail to try me to the uttermost, or I would have answered by return of post your kindest of notes, and asked you to be so very good as to send me the book ‘After Death,’<sup>3</sup> which I shall read with deep interest, and I hope comfort. And, dear kind cousin, I have promised my *tender* friend the Queen to go up to

<sup>1</sup> Countess of Stair.

<sup>2</sup> Lord Dalrymple.

<sup>3</sup> After Death, by Canon Luckock.



her at Balmoral in a fortnight. I am beginning to be rather afraid of the curious thinness, &c., which possibly solitude may induce, and I *know* I ought to try to live. So you see I am doing all you wish, dear James, and if when I come back from Balmoral you *could* and *would* be so very kind as to come for a few days to see me, *indeed* I should like it much, and I believe by the Midland you would be here in no time. I have *no* chance of moving South yet, but I *will* D.V. some day soon pay you a visit. —God bless you and all you love, Yours most affectionately,

S. ROXBURGHE.

1880, *April 13th, Tuesday*. Evening. E. and I to the Mayor and Mayoress's Reception at the Town Hall, to meet Bishop and Mrs Fraser.

15th, *Thursday*. Congregational tea-party.

16th, *Friday*. I gave a large At Home to my parishioners at the schools. Girls' Friendly Festival. Bishop and Mrs Fraser to meet many people. Bishop preached.

17th, *Saturday*. Combined Meeting of Clergy and Laity of the Rural-deanery at the vicarage.

School Anniversary, 2nd Sunday in April. The Dean of Manchester preached in the morning, Lord Mulgrave in the afternoon, Canon M'Clure in the evening.

May 12th. Preached at Dearnley. Opening of organ of new church.

June 26th, *Saturday*. Emily, C., and I went to the laying of the stone of a new school at Davyhulme, by Robert Norreys, and to Davyhulme Hall afterwards.

July 5th, *Monday*. Went to stay at Broxmouth.

July 8th. Went to Preston Grange. Lunched with Susan Suttie, her son George, Haddie (a lovely girl), and Victoria. On *Monday the 12th*, left Broxmouth for home; and on *Thursday the 29th*, day of Rural Deans at Bishops Court.

*From* THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, Father of the present Duke,  
to The Rev. JAMES PITCAIRN.

TRONDHJEM, *July 25th*, 1880.

MY DEAR JAMES,—Many thanks for your letter, which I received all right in my mother's yesterday, on my return to the vessel from the Nansen. I'm very glad to hear that the children were so

flourishing, and that you were satisfied with their appearance in general, as I know you are a good judge, and would not flatter. We have not been fishing much, and only went to see some friends on the Nansen for the inside of a week. We had very bad sport, and I can quite see that if the Norwegian Government do not do something to stop the great increase of stake and other nets in the sea, in a very few years it won't be worth any one's while coming out to Norway to fish for salmon. The weather here this year has been very changeable, but we have had some very fine days. We leave southwards to-morrow for some fishing in the Nord Fjord, said to be good, and go thence to Bergen, and so on to England, where I hope to find Annie and the children, please God, very well at Blenheim. There seem to be a good many English of one kind and another travelling about this country this year, and I see a great change in certain ways in Norway, though things move much slower here than in England. I don't hear anything of my grouse yet; they were doing very well when I left, and I hope we may be able to send you some later on. I don't think I shall begin to shoot this year until later in August than formerly, as I fancy the House may sit pretty late, and one of my guns may be detained there. From what I see in the papers of Politics, things don't seem going on over well for Government. I for one am dead against the Irish Bill and the Hares and Rabbits, both of which I hope may not pass. Pray remember me most kindly to your wife and daughters, and believe me,—Ever yours affectionately,

ROXBURGHE.

*From* LADY CHARLOTTE S. RUSSELL *to* The Rev. CANON PITCAIRN.

26 RUE DE LA MADELEINE, PARIS,  
30th Dec. 1880.

MY DEAR COUSIN,—I send you a word of most sincere fond New Year wishes from us both for you and all yours. It is quite dreadful to think I have *not* answered till now your most kind letter I got at Dieppe after your visit to my mother. Don't think me horrid: I put off, always a bad thing to do. The boys are now here for their Christmas, well, happy and affectionate, bringing good characters. I don't know what they will be; it is a difficult matter to settle. I do not much mind myself, as long as they do well, and are able to get a taste of the needful. I should like to show you my small Lilian, who is standing by me; she is a sweet, bright little darling. I have good accounts from my mother. I think her stay in the Highlands did her great good in many ways. She has Hays now with her, and has a waiting the end of January. We had a very lovely summer for nearly four months at Dieppe, and a

very nice little house and garden; are now settled here—and very snug—for the present. I do hope we shall meet again, James dear, and before long.

With very kind love to Mrs Pitcairn, and G.'s best regards,—  
Believe me, Always yours affectionately,

CHARLOTTE S. RUSSELL.

1882. *January 5th, Thursday.* Gave an "At Home" at the school, for all the teachers, district visitors, choir, and all the workers in the parish—great success.

*April 11th, Tuesday.* Dick Luard, his wife, and two children came from Canada here, for a day or two.<sup>1</sup>

1884, *January 1st.* Old people's dinner at the schools: 170 sat down, 207 had dinner sent out. Connie's drawings passed her into the Upper Life School of the Royal Academy.

*April 13th, Wednesday.* Went to the installation of Dean Oakley at the Cathedral.

*14th May, Wednesday.* Ruri-decanal visits Astley, Bedford, Pennington, West Leigh, Leigh, Walkden, Little Hulton. Took Edith, lunched at the Stannings, Little Hulton.

*June 13th.* I visited, as Rural Dean, Tyldesley, Atherton, Howe Bridge.

*July 8th, Tuesday.* Dear Susan Roxburghe came on a visit.

*9th, Wednesday.* Dinner-party.

*10th, Thursday.* Lawn-tennis party. *Many* came.

*11th, Friday.* Susan Roxburghe left for Broxmouth by 12 train: very delightful visit.

*27th August, Wednesday.* North Berwick. Susan R. came over from Broxmouth, with the two daughters of H.R.H. Princess Christian, Princesses Victoria and Louise of Schleswig - Holstein, to luncheon at Lady Elizabeth Duncan's, where Emily and I met them, and afterwards they honoured us by coming with the Duchess to afternoon tea here, leaving at 5 P.M.

*29th, Friday.* Fine, went out with Sir Hew Dalrymple sailing in his yacht, caught a lot of fish, and enjoyed it.

<sup>1</sup> General Luard had been Inspector-General of the Militia in Canada. He was Canon Pitcairn's cousin.

*Tuesday, 2nd Sept.* Went to Broxmouth to luncheon, with E. and C., the two Princesses and three boys there.

*9th, Tuesday.* Left North Berwick. Maude went to stay at Broxmouth. Princesses still there.

*29th, Monday.* Herbert married this day at Soerabaya, Java. Emily, C., and I dined at the Howorth's<sup>1</sup> to meet Lord Cranbourne (present Lord Salisbury).

*Nov. 17th, Monday.* Chapter meeting—present: Lord Mulgrave, Canon Heywood, Stanning, Coleby, Gull, Francis, Armstrong, Lewis, Clayton, Heath, Crass, Wilson, Harris, and myself.

*1885, October 22nd, Thursday.* The dear good Bishop died at 1.10 P.M. to-day, filling all hearts with grief, and leaving a gap which cannot be filled. *Note.*—This was Bishop Fraser. (Canon Pitcairn was very fond of him; the Bishop left him his Greek Testament, which he valued much.)

*Nov. 3rd, Tuesday.* Service of Commemoration for the Bishop at the Cathedral: he was buried at Upton Nervet this morning.

Manchester has indeed been fortunate in all her Bishops. Bishop Fraser was followed by Bishop Moorhouse, who certainly gave of his very best to the great northern city; and we of Manchester know what his very best is.

A man of absolute integrity, of unswerving principles, of the highest Christian ideals, and of loving sympathy always ready in case of need; of unstinting energy, and indomitable perseverance in the severe work of an enormous diocese (although at the last suffering much from constant ill-health), it is not to be wondered at that we Lancashire men and women look back with pride and say, "Here was as perfect a Bishop as an erring human mortal can well be." And if his work and life in Manchester was so great and noble, his resignation of the See was no less so. His touching farewell of his people, at that wonderful gathering in Manchester in 1903, is still lingering in our hearts.

He was true to his fine character to the end of his

<sup>1</sup> Sir Henry Howorth.



## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES. 315

official life, refusing on retiring to take the portion of the income of the bishopric due to him, on the ground that an inadequate income might be a hindrance to the best man being appointed as his successor.

A great preacher, a deep thinker, a man to whom the greatest Churchmen of our day can look up to with reverence and esteem, he was indeed a Bishop to be thankful for.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev.  
CANON PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles, Lancashire.*

BROXMOUTH, *January 18th, 1889.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—I have not been ungrateful to you nor E. and M., still less to C., for your loving thoughts and *very pretty* offerings at Christmas. Indeed I value your affection most truly, and more each year. I trust you have good news of your dear absent boys. Do tell me of Willie, and how the youngest is getting on. I have *this* week a double interest in absent sons! for my dear Johnnie Russell is going next month to the Argentine republic, and it is just settled that Charlie accompanies Lord Kintore to Adelaide as A.D.C.,—a good appointment and beginning for him, though no one knows how I shall miss him.

Thank God, all my belongings seem well. Susan<sup>1</sup> I saw yesterday. Her boy gone back to Eton to matriculate at Oxford in spring. I am going to write to-morrow to dear C., at Florence still, I conclude.

With much love to the dear girls and their dear mother. God bless you.—Your most affectionate friend, S. ROXBURGHE.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev.  
CANON PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles, Lancashire.*

BROXMOUTH PARK, DUNBAR,  
*February 7th, 1891.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—Before I begin, let me send my kindest love to all around you, and to your dear self, all being, I trust, well—as we all are, so far as I know, thank God. I go South the week after next, to take up my agreeable duties at Windsor on the 20th.

The object of my letter is my dear Lilian, who will be seventeen on the 23rd June. She is a dear child, young for her age in some

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<sup>1</sup> Lady Susan Grant Suttie.

respects, and having *no* worldly experience, living quietly here with me and her governess. During her life here, she goes with me to the Presbyterian Church, constantly to the English Church when in London. Her father, who is in India and Ceylon at present, is anxious she should be confirmed, with my entire approval (as her dear mother was before her), but I do not wish her to be examined or talked to by a man, however good, who will consider me a heretic. I hope the dear child knows what she is about, and has been duly taught by me and (out of the Church of England catechism and her Bible) her governess also reading with her.

Tell me, my dear James, when your Bishop holds confirmations. If I could, I would like my dear young grandchild to be *spoken to* by you, and I would make any effort I could to enable her to meet you. So I *am sure* would her father, who will be in England in the spring, and sure I am you will tell me exactly your opinion.

Now please ponder over this, my dear James,—and Believe me,  
Your most affectionate friend, S. ROXBURGHE.

I know for her dear mother's sake this subject will interest you.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev.  
CANON PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles, Lancashire.*

*Friday Evening, 20th Feb.,  
LONDON.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—I am detained here (on account of Lady Southampton) for a day, and do not go to Windsor till to-morrow. I am alone—9 P.M.—and I will write to you about my little girl instead of from busy Windsor.

I have your kind card, and feel how very good you are to me and mine. My children, and now grandchildren, *always* read in the afternoon, and in the English service with me.

Lilian is very much pleased about your kindness. Now, dearest James, about her. She is a dear bright girl, kept by her careful upbringing in perfect innocence, and she is always cheerful, very obliging and kind. She says prayers early and late with me. I try to lead her to ask her Heavenly Father *everything*, and she is most reverent then, and in Church, and when we read. Now, she will, I am sure, please and satisfy you, and if I have the happiness of being with you, I will tell you exactly *all* I have taught, all I would ask you anxiously to impress on her, and I think you may be a great blessing to my dear child.

I go to-morrow to Windsor. Forgive this long story, and Believe me, Your most affectionate friend, S. ROXBURGHE.

An awful pen and ink.

## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES. 317

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev.  
CANON PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles, Lancashire.*

BROWN'S HOTEL, DOVER STREET,  
*March 11th, 1891.*

MY DEAR KIND COUSINS BOTH AND ALL,—I hope to reach Eccles by the train leaving Euston at 12, and reaching you at 4.45. Lilian shall obey your advice, dear James, by train leaving Edinburgh at 10.25, and I trust to you to stop it at Eccles.

I *must* go home on Thursday 19th, and I hope Constance may go with me and halt at Broxmouth, and I trust to you, dear James, to guide my path home. Then will some one tell me how I can get to Stockport from you. Our dear old butler Black is dying there, and I must go and see him.

I think Lilian's frock will look nice; it is of simple muslin and a veil.

Much love to all,—Your truly affectionate, S. ROXBURGHE.

*From The DOWAGER-DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE to The Rev.  
CANON PITCAIRN, The Vicarage, Eccles, Lancashire.*

BROXMOUTH PARK, DUNBAR,  
*23rd March 1891.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—Words fail me altogether to tell you how full of gratitude my heart is to you, your dear wife, and all the dear party at Eccles, for the love and kindness my dear child has received. I am glad to see she *fully* appreciates it, and as for you she is perfectly devoted to you! You have been a true friend to me on many occasions, and this is a *crowning* one, and I know how tenderly her sweet mother's lovely face and character would make you interested in her child. I hope and think she has *felt* all you said and did for her, and my prayers are fervent indeed that she may be shielded from evil and folly, and that the Almighty may bless her with a life of *true* happiness. I may be wrong, but "the world" seems to me more dangerous than formerly, the tone is so light!

If God spares us all I will go to you in the summer, when I shall be both North and South with my Queen. I am really better, but a little shaky. To-day we have W. wind, a blessing, and as your dear Connie has a cold I am very glad for her sake. It was such a pleasure to me to find her here, I am so very fond of her. I shall write a line soon to your dear wife; my true love to her, and *most* grateful thanks, deeper in my heart than I can express.—Dearest James, I ever am, Your most affectionate friend,

S. ROXBURGHE.

*From* E. D. WEST, aged eighty (her last Letter to her Brother before his Death), *to* The Rev. CANON PITCAIRN, Eccles Vicarage, Manchester.

THOMASTOWN RECTORY,  
*April 2nd, 1892.*

MY DEAREST JAMES,—I must write you a line to tell you how all goes on here. I am better, but still very weak, and I can't walk at all except about my room with the help of a crutch!! Still, I have much to be thankful for, and I can read and work a little. The others are all well, thank God, and we have good accounts from Will. He is just now very busy preparing for some Easter Manœuvres at Chatham. William<sup>1</sup> has had very much parish and diocesan work. He and Amy hope to go to London in the middle of May, and he much needs the rest. Harriet<sup>2</sup> would not leave me, which I am very sorry for, as I have a nice young maid who sleeps in my room, and feeds me with beef-tea in the middle of the night. But she (Harriet) will get a change when the others come back. I had the great happiness of seeing my dear Henry for one day on his way back to Cork.

Tell me about all your dear ones when you write, and how Connie is getting on. I can't write more now, my loved James, for it tires me. All here send much love to you and the dear ones.—Ever your fondly attached Sister, E. D. W.

*From* The DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE, on the grave Illness of her Son, the Duke of Roxburghe, *to* The Rev. CANON PITCAIRN, Sir John Watson's, Earnock, Hamilton.

*Friday, Oct. 1892.*

I WRITE to you, my dearest James, in the greatest distress. My darling son Bowmont is laid low, and may be in danger any moment! He was in *excellent* health on Monday, went to a meeting, and thereafter killed a 30-lb. salmon. He had pain during the night, but no one *thought* of mischief till Tuesday evening, when agonies came on. Doctors from Edinburgh, and on Wednesday I hear that he was "seriously" ill. He is kept perfectly tranquil, and so far neither fever nor inflammation have supervened. But *until* the evil be removed, his position is very critical. If the *slightest* change for the worse comes, I go to Floors, of course. Now, I am advised not, as I could not see my dear child, as it would frighten him, and I am very unhappy.

Dear James, I am so very grieved about you. But I hope and

<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon Gorman of Kilkenny, and her son-in-law.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs Gorman.



trust to send you good news, and if you will put off coming till Tuesday (as we have no telegrams on Sunday), I do hope and trust to be here to welcome you in thankful peace.—Dear love to Mrs Pitcairn, Your most affectionate friend, S. ROXBURGHE.

*Note.*—The Duke died on the 23rd of October 1892.

The extracts I have printed from Canon Pitcairn's Diary serve as a slight index of his work and character; and the letters he received show the love and esteem he was held in. Before ill-health undermined his constitution, and increasing deafness precluded him from taking such an active part in the work of the Diocese, and meeting his fellow-clergy, he had been a most energetic clergyman, not only in his own parish but in diocesan affairs.

Having been trained first as a civil engineer, it proved of great use in his clerical career, for being one of the Committee of the Church Building Society, looking over and passing plans for churches and rectory houses, he was thus enabled to be of great practical use.

He was very methodical, and arranged his days carefully, or he could not have got through the immense amount of work he had to do; for in the earlier part of his career he was Organising Deputation Secretary of the Church Building Society, and of the Bible Society, and had his own parish as well to attend to. Later he was Treasurer for many Societies, and his accounts were kept in a most accurate and orderly way. Canon Pitcairn kept a Diary without a break for forty-two years, which in itself is rather a remarkable thing. In it he kept a record of many interesting events which happened during that long time in the Manchester diocese. During the whole of those forty-two years, as I said before, there is not one ill-natured or unkind remark about any one in the Diaries, only thankfulness to God for His many mercies, and kindly feeling to every one.

He had on the whole a very pleasant lot, which was made the more so by his contented disposition. He loved his dear old church, his parish, and his schools, and took great pride in having everything kept up in proper order.

His great recreation was his garden, his flowers being an unfailing interest. He collected many rare specimens, in which he took great delight.

In the summer of 1892 he had been very ill, and consulted a London doctor, who had been reassuring. He came back to Eccles from the seaside decidedly better, and went to Scotland in October for a short visit to his kind friends, Sir John and Lady Watson of Earnock. On his return he took duty as usual. On the last Sunday in November he preached in the morning: it proved his last sermon. In the evening he read prayers, and at the close of the service, some of the congregation remarked, that as he walked back to the vestry holding the alms-dish, he stopped for a moment on the chancel step, and looked round, as if taking a long farewell. Such proved to be the case.

On Monday morning Canon Pitcairn called on a parishioner, and his eldest son, thinking he did not look fit to go out alone, went with him. He had a slight stroke of paralysis, got gradually worse, and passed peacefully away, after ten days' illness, to the inexpressible grief of his wife and children, on the 15th of December 1892, aged 71 years.

What he was to his parish many know, what he was to his friends they can tell; but what he was to his wife and family no one can realise except those nearest to him. He was a perfect husband and father.

#### EXTRACTS FROM 'THE ECCLES ADVERTISER.'

##### THE LATE CANON PITCAIRN.

The sudden bereavement into which the inmates of the vicarage have been plunged has been the chief topic of conversation since Thursday last, and sympathetic references, some of them most touching, have been made on all hands to the sad event. Condolences to the stricken widow and family have been numerous, and must have proved sources of consolation to the recipients in their grief. Evidences of the sincerity of feeling in many of the late vicar's parishioners were not wanting on Sunday during the



CANON PITCAIRN.

1892.





services in the old church, and many were the moist eyes in the congregation who listened to the solemn tones of the organ in the "Dead March." Outside in different parts of the borough flags were floating half-mast from the various public buildings. Two of these were hoisted on the Town Hall, one was on the mast on the Parish Church tower, another on St Andrew's tower; at the Eccles Central Conservative and Liberal Clubs; at the Eccles Working Men's and the Junior Liberal Clubs; on the top of the Co-operative Society, and at the Union Offices, Patricroft.

Extract from a sermon by one of the neighbouring clergy:—

To him the tolling bell reiterated the warning, "The one shall be taken and the other left." As the minister who was left, he would like to say of the minister who had been taken, that the death of Canon Pitcairn, the vicar of this ancient parish of Eccles, had occurred, most strikingly, in the very year of the village's incorporation as a borough. It seemed as if ordained that he should live to see that day, and do his part to complete the important change by securing the attendance of the newly elected mayor, aldermen, and councillors at the ancient church, to ask God's blessing on its newly given municipal life and its serious duties; so creating a precedent which may, God grant, be uninterruptedly followed through the coming history of the borough—and that, when that was done he should be taken home. A striking change had been witnessed in the parish during Canon Pitcairn's tenure of the living. But to the vicar's own eye (and certainly the changes upon which he would look back with the greatest satisfaction), would be the ecclesiastical extensions of spiritual provision within the boundaries of that large expanse of territory over which he, when he was appointed to the living, was the responsible pastor. During the last 30 years the churches of Hope, Weaste, Irlam, Patricroft, St Augustine's, Pendlebury, Clifton, and Little Hulton, St Andrew's, St Barnabas', Pendleton, and that at Davyhulme, had been consecrated, and his own church magnificently restored. He doubted if any previous vicar of Eccles, except the missionary from the distant Abbey of Whalley to whom the ancient church and its first endowment were due, could show such a record of men and churches added to the ministry of Christ's work.

None knew so well as those sorrowing ones, who had our tenderest sympathy that day—the inmates of the late vicar's home—the cherished tenants of his own heart—how great was their loss; none could doubt his strong devotion to and affection for them. That would be to their heart's joy to remember, though now for a season it was their heart's bitterness to feel. But they might all ask God to make the darkened vicarage His holy habitation, and hope that in Him the fatherless

and the widow may realise a Guest and a Comforter, in whose presence they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and suffering should flee away.

<sup>1</sup> On Tuesday noon, the mortal remains of the late vicar were interred in the north-east portion of the parish churchyard, in the grave wherein lies Mrs Pitcairn's mother, and a daughter. The grave is bricked in, and covered with a single slab on which stands a stone cross. The upper portion, a few hours before the funeral, was lined in with moss, ferns, and white flowers, and was visited by hundreds of people during the forenoon.

Arrangements for the orderly conduct of the ceremony and the control of the burial-ground were made by Mr Superintendent Bent, who was present with Inspector O'Hara, and Sergeants Green and Dutton, and twenty constables. Shortly before eleven o'clock a great number of private carriages were drawn up near the vicarage. The *cortège* left the vicarage gates about 12.10. Previous to this, members of various societies and clubs had assembled at the Town Hall, and from there proceeded to Ladywell, and walked in procession in front of the carriages. The coffin, of polished oak with brass mountings, was placed on a car drawn by four fine horses. It bore a brass plate inscribed, "JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN, died Thursday, December 15, 1892; aged 71," and was covered with a large purple pall. Following the car came three carriages: in the first Mrs Pitcairn (the widow), and her son, Mr W. D. Pitcairn; the second carriage was occupied by Miss Pitcairn, Miss C. Pitcairn, and Colonel Luard; in the third Miss M. Pitcairn, Miss Maud Pitcairn, and Mr Hepworth (the late vicar's friend and doctor). Another carriage contained Mr W. C. Lord, Mr F. Leech, and Mr J. B. Bindloss, J.P. The Mayor and Corporation of Eccles, with various local bodies, walked in the procession.

On arrival at the church (the bells of which were ringing muffled peals) the Revs. Canon Heywood, and F. Sardeson, priest in charge (in the forefront of a long line of fifty clergy, the rear of whom was brought up by the members of the choir, the whole extending the full length of the nave), met the mournful procession, and the pall-covered coffin was brought and deposited in the chancel of the church. On the coffin was a wreath from his wife and children.

The clergy present were as follows: Revs. Archdeacon Anson; Canons Heywood, Davenport, Kelly, Birley, Tonge, and Woodhouse; Revs. H. Armstrong and J. J. Barnard, St Andrew's, Eccles; A. E. Francis, St Catherine's, Barton; W. Crass and S. S. Sutcliffe, Christ Church, Patricroft; J. H. Carter, Weaste; F. K. Hodgkinson, Worsley; R. P. Willock, Hope; T. D. Harland, Davyhulme; Dr

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<sup>1</sup> From 'The Eccles Advertiser,' Friday, Dec. 23, 1892.

Dewes and T. H. Minett, Pendlebury; P. Smith, Irlams-o'-th'-Heights; C. Heath, Walkden; M. S. Munroe, Little Hulton; T. Wilson, Clifton; F. P. Nash, Swinton; J. W. Garner, J. H. Stanning, Leigh; J. A. M. Johnson, Astley; W. Nuttall, Atherton; J. T. Lawton, Bedford; W. R. Clayton, How Bridge; W. Smith, Pennington; J. Lund, Tyldesley; W. H. Carr, Westleigh; R. Catterall, Crumpsall; J. C. Gull, Pendleton; H. J. Meres, Stowell Memorial Church; C. P. Roberts; D. Morgan, F. C. Dearden, H. J. D. Astley, J. B. Ditchfield, W. Pooley (Walkden); and E. Ferguson Hill. The Bishop and the Dean of Manchester were unavoidably absent. Amongst other friends of the late vicar were Sir H. H. Howorth, M.P., and Lady Howorth; Mr Charlewood, the Bishop's secretary; Mr J. Bowker, J.P., Mr C. W. Bayley, Dr Cox, Mr E. L. Adams, Rev. T. Sharrock, Mr C. J. Heywood, Mr Joseph Walker (of Bowden, a former churchwarden), Mr Maberly.

The church was densely thronged with a sympathetic congregation anxious to take part in, and see the last rites performed over their departed vicar. One other close associate of the late Canon, at great personal pains to himself, was present—viz., Mr John Royle, clerk—who, unable to get to church even with his crutches, had to be wheeled there in a bath-chair.

A short service began by the chanting of Psalm xc., Mr Denton playing the organ. The Rev. H. C. Carter read a lesson from Corinthians, chap xv., and the hymn beginning

“Now the labourer's task is o'er”

was sung; and then the coffin was lifted again, and while the “Dead March” was being played the mournful procession re-formed, and the late vicar was carried to his last resting-place. The widow (who was overcome with grief) did not join in this, but remained behind in church. While passing from the church to the grave another hymn was sung, “My God, my Father, while I stray.” The wish on the part of the public to gain admission into the enclosure containing the grave was very great, and the constables on duty had the greatest difficulty to carry out orders, not to permit the passage of any but those immediately connected with the ceremony. The committal portion of the Burial Service was taken by the Rev. Canon Heywood, the rural dean, assisted by the Rev. F. Sardeson, and the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Archdeacon Anson. Another hymn,

“Abide with me! fast falls the even-tide,”

was sung, and this completed the sorrowful ceremony. Many were the last looks cast into the open grave, and it was long before the churchyard was cleared and presented its usual appearance.

Some of the wreaths, crosses, and anchors were magnificent specimens of the florist's art.

The old church of Eccles has lost another of its vicars, and another name is now to be added to the long list of those who have had the care of the souls of this parish.

The late vicar has probably of them all, done more to extend Christian agencies, and has seen more of spiritual and temporal progress in his district, than any predecessor.

No one can say that the parish is not well provided with means for spreading the Gospel, and none can say that these means have been obtained on other than business principles, or that church debts are hereabouts matters which clog and depress the full action of workers connected therewith.

*Note.*—I insert the following letters out of hundreds of kind ones received:—

*From* CANON PITCAIRN'S Sister, Mrs WEST, *to* Mrs PITCAIRN.

*Dec. 16th.*

MY DEAREST EMILY,—In the midst of my pain and weakness I must write you a few words, to tell you how truly and deeply I feel for you and the dear girls in this great sorrow that has fallen on you; but you know your loss is his gain, and he knew and loved his Saviour, and is now at peace in His loving care and presence. Now I am left alone, and all my brothers and sisters are gone before me, with my loved James. The fruit was ripe, and the Father took him home. I must wait yet His time, and be made more meet for the Home above. May God comfort you all, my dear ones.—I can't add more, but am, Your loving Sister,

E. D. WEST.

*From* CANON HEYWOOD, Rural Dean.

SWINTON, *Jan. 25, 1893.*

MY DEAR MRS PITCAIRN,—We had the Annual Chapter Meeting of the Clergy of this Rural Deanery yesterday, and I was unanimously requested to write to you, and assure you and your family of the most hearty sympathy felt by us with you and yours. Not only the death of Canon Pitcairn, but the need that you should leave the vicarage, and seek a home elsewhere, was felt by all of us would be to you all a very big trial, and you may be sure that you are not forgotten in our prayers.—Yours sincerely,

H. R. HEYWOOD.



## CANON PITCAIRN'S LIFE AT ECCLES. 325

*From The DOWAGER DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE.*

BROXMOUTH, 20 Dec.

It is just twelve o'clock, my dearest cousin, and my whole heart is with you, for the papers say that at this hour your precious husband is laid to rest. Your children will write to me—*his* dear children, for whom you will try to live. So do not think of me beyond the certainty that no one in your wide circle of friends is sorrowing for and with you more tenderly and deeply than—Your ever most affectionate Friend,  
S. ROXBURGHE.

*From The Rev. Mr ROBINSON.*

MY DEAR MRS PITCAIRN,—I can only add to what I wrote before, the assurance of my most heartfelt sympathy with you all in the deep sorrow which there cannot but be, in the parting asunder of such tender ties. I learned the tidings from 'The Times' last night.

For the dear one himself there can be no sorrowing—he is at rest and in perfect happiness. Is it not a thought full of comfort, that with those loved ones who have passed beyond the veil, there is still in Christ a real communion? The conscious ministries of love are suspended—this is the trial—but the bond itself is not broken; in Christ we are still one.

I know you realise all this far better than I do. I am only putting down what is passing through my own mind about him and about you.

I wish I could have paid the last tribute of respect to my loved friend. I should have come to the service had I been at home—I was with you in thought.—Believe me, Yours affectionately,

F. W. ROBINSON.

Canon Pitcairn had nine children—four sons and five daughters. Three children predeceased their father.

1, William, died an infant.

2, William Dalbiac Pitcairn, born at Longsight, died in Canada.

3, Arthur Henry, born at Longsight, he married, had one child (Herbert Pelham), who died aged three years, his father dying in 1896.

4, Herbert, born 15th May 1861, married Willemien, daughter of Colonel Sluiter of the Dutch Artillery.

He died of malarial fever in Java, in 1889, aged 28, deeply mourned by his family and friends. He was an ideal son, husband, and brother.

1, Edith Harriet; 2, Constance; 3, Emily Louisa; 4, Mary Dalbiac; 5, Alice Maude, married to the Rev. Francis Sardeson, who was appointed in 1893, Rector of Houghton Dale, by Bishop Moorhouse, and in 1902, appointed by Mr Eckersley to the Vicarage of St James's, Wigan.

Canon Pitcairn's widow and children placed a brass tablet to his revered memory on the wall of the old church where he had preached for so many years.

Canon Pitcairn's constant care and thought for his children in every minute particular, his intense interest in all their doings, his loving care and his devotion to his wife, were well known in Eccles: alas! it made it all the harder when he left them. The villagers even used to say, "Where Emily is, there is James," meaning my father and mother. Two gentlemen were overheard talking in a train after his death. One said, "Well, Canon Pitcairn's death is a sad loss to the place. He was a thorough gentleman, and looked well after his flock." Cardinal Vaughan was heard to say, that of all the Manchester clergy, the one he most esteemed and respected was Canon Pitcairn. One of the Roman Catholic clergy went to his funeral at the graveside, and Mass was said for him by other Catholics who were not present. He had done so much for organising the relief of the distressed poor at the time of the Cotton Famine, without distinction of creed, that his efforts were specially mentioned and thanked in the Roman Catholic Church by Monsignor Kershaw.

His name is still green in the hearts of those parishioners who loved him so much, and it is astonishing after the lapse of twelve years what they say of him, and how often they mention him, and quote his sayings.

One man who had received kindness from him *insists* on still painting the railings of his grave, and keeping it



MRS. JAMES PELHAM PITCAIRN.





in order every year, and when offered money for it, was quite hurt, and said, "What! take money for doing this little thing, when the dear old Canon was so kind to me; I never will."

He was so cheery and "friendly" to his humbler parishioners, as one described it, "walking into the kitchen without knocking, 'Well! Willie, may I come in? and how are you?' And always a kind word and a nod; that's what we like. We like to be recognised when we meet the clergy, and he never forgot to speak to us." One day the old wife of the parish clerk was going to cross the road at the Market Place, Eccles. It was rather a crowded corner, and she looked timid. Canon Pitcairn was passing, promptly offered her his arm, and conveyed her across the street. She never forgot it. It was by countless little acts like these, that he endeared himself to his parishioners.

A man came for a marriage licence. After a little talk Canon Pitcairn asked him if his parents were alive. Hearing they had died long ago, he said, "May I then give you a little piece of advice. Treat your wife always with kindness and politeness. Don't forget this, and think you have the right to speak roughly to her, because she is your wife. Remember that a good wife is one of God's best gifts: from my own experience I tell you this."

About two years ago Canon Pitcairn's daughter was told by the wife of this very man, that she attributes her married happiness to the good advice her husband got then. She said he was never tired of quoting it, and it made the deepest impression on him.

One more instance of his influence, and the last I must quote. The writer was staying with some friends in Preston some time ago. They took her to a party at a Mr Horrocks'. He very kindly said he was interested to meet her, as her father had said something that impressed him very much many years ago. There was a dinner-party at a mutual friend's in the neighbourhood of Eccles, and Mr Horrocks and Canon Pitcairn were there. The

conversation turned on wages, and the host mentioned that he had a cashier who was a most excellent man, thoroughly good, honest, and reliable, and he only gave him a small salary. Canon Pitcairn thereupon said, he thought that if he were such an excellent clerk, he was deserving of a salary commensurate to his services. Mr Horrocks added: "I was so much struck with what Canon Pitcairn said, with the justice of the remark, and his moral bravery in saying it, that I determined at the moment that I would follow what he suggested, and I have carried it out with my employees ever since."

The Eccles people were very interesting. With strong opinions, and often a rough way of expressing them, yet once reach their hearts, they never altered; they were really, as they called it themselves, "jannock."

They often said very amusing things. The old clerk, who thought there was no church like Eccles Church, was once passing through the churchyard, when he met one of the curates, who looked at his watch and said, "Why, John, the church clock is five minutes slow." All his answer was, "We can't pretend to keep *our* church clock with every man's watch!"

We were in the church decorating for Christmas one afternoon, when a woman brought in a child to be christened. After the baptism, I went to talk to the woman, and saw the godfather disappearing out of the door. I asked the woman if he were the father of the child,—“Eh, no, bless you, he's no relation; I have just given him a shilling to stand."

"But," I said, "surely he understands that he has some responsibility now towards the child."

"Oh," she said, "he'll do it very well for *that*!" meaning, I suppose, that she considered he was very well paid!

Canon Pitcairn had married a couple, and in the vestry afterwards, the man came up to him, and with the best will in the world said, "Here's twopence to get yourself a glass of beer." "Thank you, my man," he said, and pocketed the twopence. He said he would not have hurt

the man's feelings by refusing it, as he saw how kindly it was meant.

The vicar used to give small bottles of port to sick people on their showing a doctor's order that it was necessary. One child came up and said she was coming for it, and added, "When do you open?" Evidently thinking the vicarage was a kind of *inn* that opened at stated times!

Visiting a sick woman in my district, I asked her sister-in-law how the invalid was. She made this astonishing reply: "Oh, she's a deal of trouble; as I says to her, if you'd only give yourself up, you'd go directly." Adding, "But there, she's that obstinate, she won't!"

Canon Pitcairn had collected for Church purposes during his clerical life as Rector of Longsight and Vicar of Eccles more than £20,000. Through his untiring energy Longsight Schools and Rectory were built, and the Church beautified.

At Eccles the old Parish Church was twice restored and beautified, new schools built, and also a first-rate vicarage, besides all the help Mr Pitcairn gave, by collecting subscriptions for various churches in his large parish, which were built since he became Vicar of Eccles.

He certainly carried out the text, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

He was most liberal-minded, and kind in his judgment of other men. We often, I am sorry to say, criticised a sermon by a stranger; but he would only say, "Well, it was far above the average." He never stinted his praise for other clergymen's work and efforts to do good, and he was the first to praise and the last to blame.

He had a very clear delivery, and a beautiful and very flexible voice.

I have been told over and over again, by very many people, that they never heard any one read the service, particularly the lessons, as he did. An old woman at Eccles told the writer that, "Eh, I did enjoy that lesson on Sunday, I did for sure. Your father read about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and I really thought I saw

them walking in that their burning fiery furnace!" She evidently thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle!

My father's forgiveness of injuries was to me quite wonderful: he seemed, when once he forgave, to entirely blot it out of his mind, as if it had never been, and certainly he never alluded to it again, even to his own family. His love for his friends was very great. Though apparently open he was still most reticent of his deepest feelings, and few knew how sensitive he was.

Very religious without any parade of it, no doubt many were hardly aware of the depth of his faith; he had such a horror of talking about it, and of ostentation in religion.  
*Vale.*



## BRANCH I.



### ARMS OF PITCAIRN OF INNERNETHY.

Argent, three lozenges, within a Bordure Gules.

*Crest.*

A Star, surrounded with clouds.

*Motto.*

Spes Lucis Æternæ.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF INNERNETHY.

THIS branch of the Pitcairn family was descended from John de Pitcarne, who in 1250 had the lands of Innerneathy given to him by Sir Hugh de Abernethie (see charter in the account of the Pitcairns of Pitcairn and Forthar).

Alexander Pitcarne of that Ilk, eighth laird of Pitcarne and Innerneathie, had two sons—George Pitcarne of Pitcarne and Airdree, of that Ilk, who succeeded his father in the lands of Pitcarne; and James, his second son, to whom he gave the lands of Innerneathy, and who was the ancestor of the Pitcairns of Innerneathy.

Alexander first resigned the lands into the hands of his overlord, George, Earl of Angus. The deed is as follows:—

Procuratory of Resignation by Alexander de Petkarne of that Ilk, appointing David Broun, citizen of St Andrews, and John Cluny, a husbandman of Rhynd, his procurators, for resigning in the hands of George, Earl of Angus, Lord of Abernethy, his whole lands of Ennernethy in the lordship of Abernethy and sheriffdom of Perth. Dated at Perth, 6th March 1453-4.

The original is in the possession of Sir William Fraser's trustees, and the above note is printed in the 'History of the Family of Douglas.

Then follows this charter to James, Alexander Pitcairn's son, by the Earl of Angus:—

Georgius, Comes Angusie, to Jacobo de Pettcarne et Alicie Sponse sue (by which he granted and confirmed) the terras de Innernethy cum pertinentiis jacen infra dominium nostrum de Abirnethy infra vicecomitatum de Stratherne, quas terras de Alexander de Petkarne mediante suo procuratore per furtem et baculum in manibus nostris sursum reddidit.

Apud Sanctum Andriam, 1 May 1454.

*Translation.*

Charter by George, Count of Angus, to James of Pitkarne and Alicia his wife, by which he "granted and confirmed to them the lands of Innernethy with its belongings, lying under our lordship of Abernethy in the county of Perth, which lands were procured for us by Alexander de Pitkarne by furtem and baculum in our hands as above related. At St Andrews, 1st May 1454."

It is therefore evident that Alexander had resigned Innernethy to his overlord the Earl of Angus, to enable his son James Pitcairne to receive a new charter from the Earl. James therefore became ninth laird of Innernethie.

This charter was in 1454, and there is nothing heard of these Pitcairns until another James Pitcarne makes over the estate to his son Andrew in 1546.

I. <sup>1</sup> Andrew Pitcarne and seven sons were killed at the

<sup>1</sup> Gen. Dict., London, 1739. The Forthar Pitcairns also claim descent from this Andrew, but I have not found evidence to prove this.

battle of Flodden field in 1513. He left a posthumous son, who had his estates taken from him by his enemies; but they were restored by the King. If this Andrew was son of James and Alicia, and tenth laird of Innernethie, then his son James would possibly be the eleventh laird, who gave his estate to his son Andrew in 1546, in the following charter:—

II. Andrew Pitcarne, son and heir-apparent of James Pitcarne of Innernethy, and Janet Chalmers, wife of Andrew, had seisen given them of Innernethy by Peter Carmichael in Bagle [Baiglie] near Aberargie, as bailie in hac-parte of a noble Earl, Archibald, Earl of Angus, Lord of the regality of Abernethy, under reservation of the frank tenement and possession of the said lands, manor, garden, and orchard thereof, of the said James Pitcarne his father. Jan. 29, 1546.

“In 1552, November 14, James Pitcarne occupied the lands and house of Cordoun, in the barony and regality of Abernethy, formerly belonging to Ogilvie of that Ilk, county of Forfar, and then belonging to John Spens. Edinburgh, 14th November 1552.”<sup>1</sup>

James Pitcarne, eleventh laird of Innernethy, left two sons—Andrew, twelfth laird, and George Pitcarne, of whom nothing is known, excepting in the inventory of his elder brother's goods he is one of the creditors.<sup>2</sup>

Andrew Pitcarne (II.), son and heir of James Pitcarne of Innernethy, had seisen of Innernethy of his father in 1546: he made his will on the 3rd of February 1553, and died the following day, although his will was not proved until the 15th December 1584.

His will mentions his wife, Janet Chalmers, and Andrew, his eldest son and heir. He left a legacy to his granddaughter Janet, daughter of Christiane Pitcarne, wife of Alexander Anderson, merchant in Perth. Janet's mother, Christiane, died 11th September 1578.

At Perth, on the 14th of July 1568, “Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethy was one of the inquest who served David

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig.

<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh Testaments.

Swyntone, heir to John Swyntone his father, in twenty-four acres of the *cottary* of Elcho."

II. Andrew Pitcarne, twelfth laird of Innernethy, had three sons: 1, Andrew Pitcarne, his heir; 2, John Pitcarne; 3, James Pitcarne; and one daughter, Janet.

Christiane Pitcarne we have already mentioned.

Andrew Pitcarne's second son, John, was a notary practising at Abernethy, who also filled the office of Reader at the church of that parish.<sup>1</sup>

On the 29th October 1576,<sup>2</sup> he, described as "John Pitcarne, son of Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethye, borne there within the parish of Abernethye, of the aig of twentie," was admitted Notary Public by the Lords of Council and Session. In 1583 he is mentioned in the Books of Sederunt of the same Lords as then being Reader at Abernethy. He married Katharine Lyell, who is supposed to have been a granddaughter of Alan Lyell in Inchyra, on the north bank of the Tay, nearly opposite to Innernethy.

Mrs Pitcarne predeceased her husband in September 1583. Her testament is recorded in Edinburgh the 23rd of December 1584.

Mrs John Pitcairn's will, dated Abernethy, the 28th of September 1583, was witnessed by

Andro Pitcarne of Innernethy; Andro Pitcarne, his son and apparent heir; Mr James Pitcarne, his youngest son; Thomas Moir of Aberargie; Mathow Lyell in Colfargy [Culfargie], her brother, and others: John Pitcarne, her husband, to be executor, one-half of the goods in communion to be his, the other half to Michael Lyell, her brother, and Agnes Lyell, spouse to William Forfar in Colfargie, her sister, between them: Leavis of her clathis to Mirabill Lyell, her brutheris dochtir, her broun kirtill, and to Agnes Lyell, her other sister, her blak cloik.

His third son, Mr James Pitcarne, minister at Falkland, was presented to the vicarage of that parish by James VI. on the 28th of October 1595. He had previously been

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

<sup>2</sup> Records of Admissions of Notaries, MS. in Register House, Edinburgh.



doing duty as Reader at Strathmiglo and Lathrisk. Dr Scott, in his 'Scoti Fasti Ecclesiæ,' states that Pitcarne incurred the Royal displeasure, and was confined to his parish in 1611, for giving admission, with three others, to the minister of Strathmiglo without the Archbishop's authority. During the period of his incumbency, on the 9th of August 1611, George (Gledstanis), Archbishop of St Andrews, made a visitation of the kirk of Falkland. The Report drawn up on that occasion is given in the 'Record of the Synod of Fife,' printed for the Abbotsford Club, and bears, *inter alia*, that<sup>1</sup>

Mr James Pitcarne, Minister of the said Kirk, is fund to teache twyse on the Sabbath-day bot not on the week dayes. He is removed, tryed, and approvin be the haill session of that Kirk; elderis and deikins also approvin.

On the 17th January 1605, we find him invoking the authority of the Lords of the Privy Council against two refractory debtors of his—viz., William Rankelour, Kynntyre pursuivant (who was probably identical with a person of that name who figures as a Messenger-at-Arms at Cupar, *circa* 1586),<sup>2</sup> and William, his son, and obtaining a warrant to the Captain of the Guard to apprehend them for non-payment to him of £100 specified in their obligations to him.<sup>3</sup> Mr James Pitcarne demitted his charge in the year 1625.

III. Andrew Pitcarne, thirteenth laird of Innernethy (eldest son of Andrew Pitcarne, II.),<sup>4</sup> on the 9th of March 1598, had a charter from

His feudal superior, William, Earl of Angus, Lord of Douglas and Abernethie, to him and his heirs, of the lands of Innernethie and fishings upon the water of Erne, in the barony and regality of Abernethy—holden by him immediately of the Earl by the tenure of ward and relief—on his own resignation made at the Canongate per furtem et baculum; and containing a novodamus of the lands,

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. of the Privy Seal.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. liv. No 21.

<sup>4</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

and pro bono servitio "changing the holding from ward to that of libera alba firma reddendo nide annuation unum denarium usualis monete regni Scotie at Whitsunday, on the ground of the said lands, in nomine albe firme si petatur."<sup>1</sup>

This charter is written "in officina scriptoria Adami Lautie, scriba infra Edinburgum," by Daniel Melvill his servitor, and to be witnessed by Mr Richard Douglas of Brokeholles. Confirmed the 27th of June 1601, Register of Sasines, Perth, vol. i.

At Abernethy, on the 3rd of May 1601, Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethy witnessed a discharge granted by Mr Archibald Moncrieff, minister of Abernethy, to Sir John Weims of that Ilk.<sup>2</sup>

This laird and the proprietor of Balgonie adjoining Innernethy appear to have been at variance, for in 1603 the latter took out "Letters of Lawborrows" against Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethy, and on the 10th of November of that year Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk became cautioner for him in the sum of 1000 merks that he "would not harm Mr Archibald Moncrieff" of Balgonie.

The bond of caution was written by Mr Andrew Pitcarne, scribe, and subscribed at Pitcarne (near Leslie) the 10th of November 1603, before David Pitcarne and John Brown. Four days later, Andrew Pitcarne and his wife, Marion Spence, executed a discharge in favour of James Philip, portioner of Berriehole (parish of Abdie), of 1050 merks secured to them over certain lands belonging to the grantee lying in the Hauche of Newburgh—one of the witnesses being Mr Andrew Pitcarne, his son and heir-apparent. He seems to have participated in the spoils of the Collegiate Church of Abernethy. At all events, he owned a tenement and croft of land in the territory of Abernethy, which had belonged to the Prebend, variously written Forevin, Forevinschip, and "Forlevin fundit of auld within the said Church."<sup>3</sup> In the year 1611 he feued this prebend subject to one Robert Ferny and his spouse, Marjory

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

<sup>2</sup> Wemyss Castle Muniments.

<sup>3</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

Culros, for a feu-duty yearly of 618 Scots and twentie scheir dearge of guid and sufficient scheararis according to use and wont in Innernethy yeirly betwixt the feistis of Lambes and Michelmes yearlie in all tyme cuming allenarlie."

IV. Andrew Pitcarne, fourteenth laird of Innernethie (son of No. III.) He was bred up to letters, and was a Master of Arts—probably of the University of St Andrews. By contract of marriage, in the year 1606, he was affianced to Margaret Ramsay, daughter and heiress-apparent to Henry Ramsay of Lawes, County Forfar (who appears to have been connected with some of the landed families of that ancient surname in the County of Fife). They were married *ante* 9th February 1607.

On the 21st August 1622 he had "seisen of Innernethye, on Charter by his father, dated at Auchtermuchtie, the 21st of August of that year, and witnessed by Henry Pitcarne of Forthar, and Robert Pitcarne his son, servitor to a Serene Prince,<sup>1</sup> Charles of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, David Seton in Urquhart [Urquhart, parish of Strathmiglo], and John Philip, Clerk of Newburgh.

V. Andrew Pitcarne, fifteenth laird of Innernethie and Cordon (eldest son and heir of fourth Andrew). In 1632 he, and Margaret Robertson his future spouse, had seisen from his father of Innernethye. This laird, and his wife, on the 3rd of August 1646, entered into a

Contract with Archibald, Earl of Angus, and his wife, the Lady Ann Stewart, for her interest, by which the former alienated to the latter the lands of Pitcurraneis, adjoining Abernethy. In excambion for the alienation of the above lands, the Earl and his countess, by charter dated the 3rd of August 1646, dispoined to this Andrew Pitcarne and his wife the lands of Cordoun,<sup>2</sup> with the mill, woods, fishings, &c., to be holden of the Earl and his heirs-male and successors, barons of the barony of Abernethy, in feu-farm for a yearly feu-duty of £8 Scots, and a duplicand thereof on the entry of heirs.

Andrew Pitcarne also acquired the lands of Haltoune, in the parish of Abernethy, from Andrew Lundie of Carie and

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries, p. 60.

<sup>2</sup> Scottish Antiquary, p. 60.

Provostmains; and Andrew Pitcarne and his wife, Margaret Robertson, were infest therein on the 22nd June 1656. He latterly got into embarrassed circumstances, and had to alienate the family estate of Innernethy, which he, his wife, and his father did in the year 1655, for the sum of 15,850 merks, to Patrick Ross, a notary in Perth, and Mr Robert Ross, his eldest son.<sup>1</sup> Cordoun was apprised from him and from his eldest son James Pitcarne in the year 1662 by William Oliphant of Provostmains, for £4390, 12s. 10d. Scots of principal, and £220 of Sheriff-fee.

At Falkland, on the 4th July 1659, Andrew Pitcarne, son to Andrew Pitcarne of Cordoune, witnessed a renunciation granted by William Aittone, brother-german of David Aittone of Kirkaldie, to Andrew Lundie of Carie.<sup>2</sup>

He was alive in 1664. He had the following issue:—

1, James Pitcarne of Cordoun, eldest son of Andrew Pitcarne, sixteenth laird of Innernethie, was involved with his father in money difficulties. He died, it is believed (*sine prole*), *ante* 18th April 1664, of which date Isabella Edgar, his relict, obtained Decree of Adjudication against her father-in-law, and William Oliphant of Provostmains, for his interest, adjoining Cordoun for a debt due to her.

VI. Andrew, who on the 26th of December 1655 had seisin of an annual rent out of Cordoun, and had the lands of Forret. He owned a great deal of property in and about Abernethy. He was dead before June 1693. He was seventeenth in descent. Andrew married Isobel Balvaird, heiress of Pitblae, who, on the 31st of May 1693, had seisin of

Pitblae, Malartyne, and Montquhirrie on a Precept of Clare Constat by the Marquis of Douglas, for infesting her in these properties as heir to John Balvaird of Pitblae, her brother-german.<sup>3</sup>

VII. Andrew Pitcarne, their son, eighteenth in descent, a bailie of Abernethy, married Christian Lennox, daughter

<sup>1</sup> Deeds Register, MS., Register House.

<sup>2</sup> Perth Sasines, Series iv. vol. v. fol. 392.

<sup>3</sup> Perth Sasines.



of Alexander Lennox, tenant of Balhepburn in the parish of Rhynd. On the 23rd of November 1706 he had a Precept of Clare Constat from

Maria, Marchioness of Douglas, for infefting him, as heir to his father,<sup>1</sup> in a tenement of land, with houses and garden adjacent to the same, on the north side of the burgh of Abernethy, the vennel called the Dead Wynd being on the south, and in the land there.

This Clare says that he was son of Andrew Pitcarne, bailie of Abernethy, and grandson of Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethie. He was father of Robert Pitcârne of Pitblae, nineteenth in descent, had a Clare from the Commissioners of the Duke of Douglas for infefting him, as heir to his father, on the 13th of June 1727,

In subjects at Abernethy, in the way leading from the Pyramid of Abernethy [the famous round tower said to have been built by the Picts] and the kirkyard being on the east; and in a pendicle there called St John's Croft, and in the lands called the Fluks.

In this writ there is mention of Isobel Hunter, mother of Isobel Balvaird, the maternal grandmother of the grantee. By Ann Aison, his wife, Pitcarne had a son, also *Robert Pitcarne* of Pitblae, twentieth in descent, to whom, 29th January 1770, he conveyed his various properties in and about Abernethy, and who, on the 28th July, had a charter from Archibald, Lord Douglas of Douglas (the successful claimant of the great Douglas Cause), confirming the last-mentioned disposition to him. Robert was served heir to his cousin, Andrew Pitcarne of Hilltown, a writer in Edinburgh, on the 11th October 1804.

VIII. Andrew Pitcarne, brother to the first Robert. On the 14th of December 1726 he, designated "lawful son of the deceased Andrew Pitcarne of Pitblae," was, at twenty-three years of age, admitted Notary Public. Notarial motto, *Divina Providentia mihi hæreditate est*. He was extensively employed in conveyancing business in Strathmiglo and neighbourhood.

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries, p. 61.

His name appears among the agents admitted by the Court of Session in the year 1755, and he carried on his business in Halkerston's Wynd. On October 12, 1735, he was married to Grizel Aison (his brother Robert had married Ann Aison,—possibly they were sisters), daughter of the then deceased Thomas Aison, writer at Glentarkie, near Strathmiglo.<sup>1</sup>

The following entry from the Parochial Register of Strathmiglo relates to the burial of Mr Aison in 1730, May 24, in "First Cloth of Thomas Aison, the writer of Glentarkie, £4, 16s. od."

Andrew Pitcarne died at Edinburgh, in the year 1780, and on February 5 was buried in the Greyfriars' Burying-Ground there, "3 D(ouble) p(aces) n(orth) the gate leading to Heriot's Hospital, closs the wall, aged 80" (Greyfriars' Mortuary Register, MS.) His wife, Grizel Aison, who predeceased him, was buried in the same churchyard ("in Mr Brown's Ground") on the 5th day of May 1774. They had, with other issue, (1) IX. Andrew Pitcairn of Hilltown, who followed his father's profession of Writer in Edinburgh, born in 1736. He died in the year 1803, *s.p.*, and on the 14th of March was buried beside his father in the Greyfriars'. On the 11th October 1804 his cousin, Robert Pitcairn of Pitblae, was served heir-general to him; and (2) Janet the wife of Mr James Laidlaw, Writer to the Signet.

She appears to have died *sans* issue on the 24th October 1798, and was buried in the Greyfriars' on the 26th. Andrew, her brother, was served heir-general to her on 24th May 1799. Mr Laidlaw remarried at Dundee on 11th August 1801, with Jean, second daughter of the deceased John Pitcairn, merchant, and late Provost of Dundee. His first wife's family and his second wife's were probably related.

III. Christiana Pitcairn, wife of the Rev. Alexander Pirrie, a minister at Newburgh, author of several works, was the daughter of the VIIth Andrew Pitcairn.

<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh Marriage Register.







## THE PITCAIRNS OF INNERNETHY. 341

The following Pitcairn names are on a tombstone in an old disused churchyard, now closed, near the Bridge of Earn:—

In loving memory of JAMES PITCAIRN,  
Portioner, Kintillo,  
who died, 9th February 1868, aged 79.

CATHERINE STODDART, his Wife,  
died 15th July 1878, aged 84.

Their Sons,

JOHN,  
Died at Malta, 3rd January 1849, aged 24.

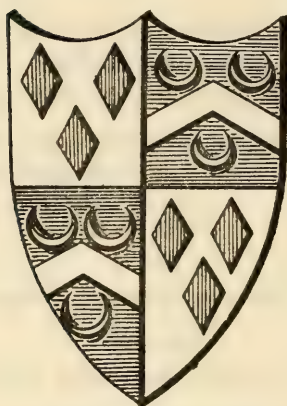
WILLIAM,  
Perished at Sea, returning from New York, 1857, aged 30.

JAMES ALEXANDER,  
Died at Sea, on voyage from Calcutta,  
25th December 1859, aged 26.

I have not traced who these Pitcairns were; but probably they were descended from the Innernethy Pitcairns, as Innernethy is part of the Bridge of Earn.

I think it very possible, also, that the Innernethy Pitcairns and the Perthshire Pitcairns were related, for the first John Pitcairn, Burgess of Perth, who married Margaret Mair of Strathmiglo, 1731, and died in 1773, had "Plena refulget," the motto of the chief of the Pitcairns, on his tombstone, and he married a lady of Strathmiglo, as did also Andrew Pitcairn of Pitblae (the Innernethy Branch), who married a Miss Grizel Aison, also of Strathmiglo. Strathmiglo is very little distance from Innernethy.

## BRANCH II.



ARMS OF PITCAIRN OF PITLOUR.

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## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF PITLOUR.

THE coat of arms of the Pitcairns of Pitlour, mentioned in Nisbet's Heraldry,<sup>1</sup> is as follows:—

For William Pitcarne of Pitlower, 1542, quarterly, 1st and 4th Argent, three lozenges, two and one Gules, for Pitcairn; 2nd and 3rd Azure, a chevron between Crescents Argent. Crest, an anchor in pale Azure. Motto, Sperabo.

2nd and 3rd quarters, Azure, a chevron between Crescents, is the coat of arms of the Dury family.<sup>2</sup>

The estate of Pitlour is situated near the village of Strathmiglo, and now includes part of the village itself.

<sup>1</sup> Nisbet's Scottish Heraldry, vol. i. p. 215. Pub. Edinburgh, 1722.

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Dury married David Pitcairn of that Ilk.

The village was formerly a portion of the Abbey lands of Balmerino. After Lord Balmerino's attainder in 1745 this part of the village was acquired by the estate of Pitlour, and now belongs to W. B. Skene, Esq.

Pitlour House is about one mile north, overlooking the village. The house is a substantial one, with grounds beautifully laid out, and anciently formed part of the Barony of Strathmiglo, but was sold by Sir James Scott of Balwearie to Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk. It remained with the Pitcairns until the year 1698 or 1699, when the second Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour, with his father Henry, sold the estate to John Skene of Halyards, who married Patrick Pitcarne's daughter Helen. The present house was not built until 1784, long after the purchase of the property by Mr Skene. Helen Pitcarne was so fond of her old home that she would not have it altered before her death, and the old house was only pulled down early in last century. The old wall gardens are still untouched: there are some beautiful trees in the park, and the country on all sides is very beautiful.

There was formerly a small religious house (or "Hospital") at Gatesyde, at the village of Edenshed, in the parish of Strathmiglo, probably founded by Robert III. or James I. The original matrix of the seal of this house is now in the possession of a gentleman in Kinross.

The Pitcairns of Pitlour were descended from John de Petcarne, who in 1250 received a grant of the lands of Innerneathy from his kinsman, Sir Hugh de Abernethy, from whom were also descended in the direct line the Pitcairns of that Ilk and Forthar (see Forthar Pitcairns).

Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk and Forthar-Ramsay was eleventh laird in 1489. He married Egidia, or Grizzell, Marlville or Melville, and had two sons: David, who succeeded to Pitcairn and Forthar-Ramsay; and John, his second son, who succeeded to Pitlour, and the Barony of Drongie or Drumgy.

Henry also had two daughters: 1, Katherine, married to John Ballingall of Drummardy; 2, Marjory, married to

Robert Whyte of Balnethil, who also, in 1531-2, possessed part of Kilgraston, Strathern, given him by William Moncrieff.

In 1504 Henry Pitcarne of Forthar and his wife Egidia Marlville had

Two tofts granted to them, near the lands of the Abbey of Balmerinock, and ane croft with malt kiln and barn in the village or town of Strathmiglo, in the shire of Fife.<sup>1</sup>

This deed was dated at Pitlour on the 21st of July 1504, and was the first mention of Pitlour as belonging to the Pitcairn family. There is another deed, dated 1517, signed by Henry Pitcarne at Pitlour.<sup>2</sup>

In 1526, August 4, at Perth—

Mr David Pitcarne, Archdean of Brechin, and John Petcarne, are witnesses at Perth to a charter granted to William, Lord Ruthven, and Christian Forbes, his spouse, and William Ruthven, their son, who bought from Walter Chaip lands Wester Pitlour and Auchnary in baronia de Strathmego. Held of the King.<sup>3</sup>

Henry Pitcarne gave his son John, Pitlour, and he was in possession of it, and the Barony of Drungy, as early as October 31, 1536. The following charter plainly shows that John Pitcarne was in possession of Pitlour, also that he had four sons: Henry, his heir-apparent, William, John, and James; besides a daughter. The sons signed the deed as witnesses:—

John Pitcarne de Drungy sold “10 marcatas terrarum ville sue de Blairfortht in baronia de Cuthilgurdy vic Perth to Andree Gib and Margaret Admowty, his wife. Witnesses, *Henry Petcarne filio, dicti Johannis Pitcarne et here de apparente, William Pitcarne filio ejusdem, John Alex. Maure, John Pitcarne, James Pitcarne. Apud locum habitationis dicti John Pitcairne de Pitloure, 27th October 1536. Confirmed by the king, Edinburgh, 31st October 1536.*<sup>4</sup>

And in 1542, in ‘Nisbet’s Heraldry’ James Pitcarne of Pitlour is called “Pitcarne of Drunghe,” and has for coat

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. No. 117. See Pitcairn of Forthar.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. xxiv. No. 43.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., lib. xxi. No. 89.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., lib. xxv. No. 357.







PITLOUR HOUSE.

of arms three lozenges within a border gules, as in the plate of achievements. Motto, *Spes lucis eternæ*.

James, youngest son of John Pitcarne of Pitlour, and his son William are mentioned in the records of Dysart in 1542.

In 1553 John Pitcarne sold some more of his land near Perth. The following is the charter:—

Pitcarne of Drongie.

In the year 1553 John Pitcarne of Drongie sold to David Wemyss, son of David Wemyss of that Ilk by Mariot Tours his second wife, the lands of Blair of Forth and others in the barony of Cuthilgurdy and shire of Perth.<sup>1</sup>

Confirmation by the Queen of Charter by John Pitcarne of Drungy, whereby he sold to David Wemyss, brother-german of John Wemyss of that Ilk, the lands of Blair of Forth, with third part of Strentoun, in the barony of Cuthilgurdy and shire of Perth. Dated at his place of Pitlour, 10th of June 1553. William Pitcarne is a witness. Confirmed at Perth, 18th of June 1553.<sup>2</sup>

It appears from the foregoing Charters that John Pitcarne of Drongy and Pitlour had sold all his former estate of Blair Forthyt to two different people, part to Andrew Gibb in 1536 and the rest to David Wemyss in 1553. Pitcairn was now definitely settled in his house of Easter Pitlour, Lord Ruthven owning Wester Pitlour and Auchnary.

John Pitcarne of Pitlour died in 1597,<sup>3</sup> an old man; his grandson, Patrick Pitcarne, was served heir to him, Jan. 18, 1597, and on the same day to his great-grandmother, Egidia Melville, wife of Henry Pitcarne of Forthar.

The four sons of John of Pitlour were: 1, Henry, the eldest and John's heir, who would have had Pitlour but died early, Henry's son Patrick succeeding in his place; 2, William; 3, John; and 4, James.

Willame Petcarne of Drungy, John's second son, signed a deed in Strathmiglo for his father on the 18th of November 1569. On the 8th of March 1585 he made his last will and testament, and was succeeded by his son Willame Petcarne (II.), who is mentioned in a charter, 1589-90, as being of Kirktown Mylne of Innerkelour, tenant of John, Lord of Innermeyth.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wemyss Book, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. No. 631.

<sup>3</sup> Index of Retours, County of Fife.

<sup>4</sup> Reg. of Privy Council, 1589-90.

On the 27th July 1616 John Pitcarne, in Kirktown Mill of Innerkeilour, makes his will: he was son of William Pitcarne (II.) of Kirktown Milne, and great-grandson of John of Pitlour.

PATRICK PITCAIRN OF PITLOUR.

Henry, the eldest son of John Pitcarne of Pitlour, had predeceased his father; therefore Patrick, Henry's son, succeeded to the Pitlour estate in 1597, on the death of his grandfather.

On the 18th of Jan. 1597 Patrick was also retoured heir to Egidia Melville, his great-grandmother. He was very young when he came into the property, for only four years before this date he was page to his cousin, John Pitcarne of that Ilk, and witnessed a deed at Forthar on the 3rd of May 1593: in it he is called "Servitore" to Mr John Pitcarne.

In 1594 Sir James Scott of Abbotshall went surety for Sir James Scott of Balwearie not to harm Patrick Pitcarne of Pitloure.<sup>1</sup>

It was a Sir James Scott of Balwearie who sold part of Pitlour to the Pitcairns.

On the "25th of May 1594 Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour became surety for James Weyms of Balquhary, that he would not reset or intercommune with Francis, sometime Earl Bothwell." Weyms broke the contract, and had communication with Bothwell, so therefore Patrick Pitcarne had to pay. The reason of this transaction was, that at the University in Edinburgh the boys barred out their master, Hercules Rollock; one of them in the confusion shot a master through a window. Some of the ringleaders were to have been executed, but got off eventually by many of the gentlemen's sons in Fife becoming surety for them. Francis, Earl Bothwell, was one of those implicated.

Wester Pitlour had now become the property of Mrs Moncrieff, *née* Janet Pitcarne, in this way:

<sup>1</sup> Reg. of the Privy Council of James VI., 1593-94.



Janet Pitcarne, daughter of Andrew Pitcarne of Inner-nethy, was the wife of Robert Moncrieff, of Easter Rhynd near Innernethy.

In the year 1598<sup>1</sup> she was described as his relict, and had seisen of the lands of Wester Pitlour, in the Barony of Strathmiglo, with tenants, tenandries, and services of free tenants, on Charter of Sale and Alienation by Sir James Scot, of Balwearie, Knight, with consent of Elizabeth Wardlaw, his spouse, dated at Kynnerny (in the west of Fife) the 15th of August 1598, Elizabeth Wardlaw (daughter of Andrew Wardlaw of Torrie) subscribing: "With my hand at the pen led by the two notaries Publict underwritten at my command, because I can not writ." The deed states, that "seisin was given on the ground of the said lands, by an honorable man, James Blyth of Craigie (near Dundee), son of Richard Blyth, 'Chalmerlaine and Granatour' of the Abbacy of Lindores, as bailie of Sir James Blyth, to the said Janet Pitcarne personally present, about 12 noon, in presence of Mr James Pitcarne, Minister of God's Word at Falkland, Mr James Balcanquell, Minister of God's Word at Stramiglo, John Dron junr. in Pitlour, James Laing in Innernethie, and David Barclay, mason (fabro murario) in Cupar. (This was a wadset for 3000 merks advanced by Mrs Moncrieff to Sir James Scott.<sup>2</sup>)

This Janet Pitcarne is not mentioned by Mr George Seton in his book on the Moncrieffs, neither is her husband. Her brother, Andrew Pitcarne (son of Andrew Pitcarne of Inner-nethy)

Had disposed to him by her, the right to the lands of Wester Pitlour, which she had in pledge from Sir James Scot of Balwearie. The right of reversion of these lands having been transferred by Sir James to Alexander Moncrieff, Master Falconer to King James VI. (afterwards Sir Alexander Moncrieff of Balcaskie, Knight), the latter, on the 15th December 1600, redeemed them from this Andrew Pitcarne of Innernethy, by paying him 3000 merks. The redemption was made within the "Kirk of Strathmeglo at twa houris efter noone" or thereby, in presence of James Ramsay of Corstoun, Andrew Riccartone of Casche, and others.<sup>3</sup>

In June 1602 Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour gave Sir James Elphinstone of Innerdevat £100 to buy a stand of horsemen's armour from Sir Michael Balfour of Birley.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Privy Council, 1594.

<sup>2</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries, Mr Lyell's paper.

<sup>3</sup> Scottish Notes and Queries.

<sup>4</sup> Register of the Privy Council for 1602-3.

Patrick was still a young man, though he had come into the inheritance of his father, grandfather, and great-grandmother.

On July 22nd, 1603, Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour is witness to a Charter of this date at Hampton Court, "Confirmed at Whytehall on the 10th of February 1604."<sup>1</sup>

Patrick was Groom of the Bedchamber to King James VI., and was evidently in favour with that King, as for his services in 1605 he is granted a charter of the lands of Wester Pitlour, &c., which had belonged to the Ruthvens, the Scots of Balwearie, Janet Pitcarne (Mrs Moncrieff), and then redeemed by Alexander Moncrieff, and in 1608 a second charter is granted to Pitcarne.

#### I. *Royal Charter.*

1605, *March 6.* Charter by King James VI. to Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour, and the heirs-male of his body, of the town and lands of Drumgie, with peat moss, muirs, meadows, and commonty, in the Shire of Perth, town and lands of Wester Pitloure, lands of Auchnairie, lands of Easter Pitloure, &c., in the Barony of Strathmiglow, in the Shire of Fife, with privilege of pasture on the Lomonds of Falkland, and the hills of Auchtermuchty, on resignation by the said Patrick; all which the King incorporated into a free Tenandry of Pitloure for the good services of the said Patrick.<sup>2</sup>

#### II. *Royal Charter.*

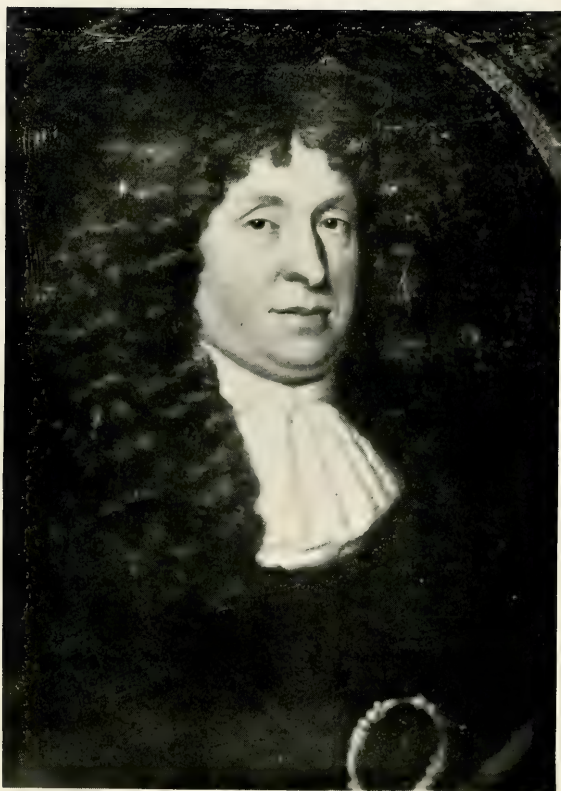
1608, *July.* Charter by the King to Patrick Pitcarne of Pitloure, of the West Mill of Strathmiglo, with 24 acres of lands of Pitgormo, lying contiguous to the said mill, with pasture on the Lomonds of Falkland, &c., on resignation by Sir James Scot of Balwerie, Knight.<sup>3</sup>

By this time Patrick had left Mr John Pitcarne of Forthar-Ramsay, and had gone as page to Alexander Seaton, sixth Lord, and first Earl of Dunfermline. He was probably of an impatient disposition, as in 1605 it

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlv. No. 192.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. xlix. No. 75.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., lib. xlv. No. 207.



PATRICK PITCAIRN, OF PITLOUR,  
Circa. 1600.





says in the Register of the Privy Council that "he was brought up for rebellion against Alexander Seatoun,"<sup>1</sup> Earl of Dunfermline.

In 1613 he was one of the Commissioners of the Peace of the Sherifffdom of Fife and Kinross,<sup>2</sup> and amongst others on the Bench were his cousin, Henry Pitcarne of Forthar, Sir David Lindsay of the Mount, and Patrick's uncle, Sir William Pitcarne of Kirktown Mylne. In 1615 Commission is also given to "Sir Johne Boiswell of Balmuto, Sir James Wemyss of Bogie, David Beatoun of Balfour, Henrie Pitcarne of Forthie, James Clark of Balbirnie; any three of them, to try prisoners."

At this date, there were

Letters to find caution, to keep the peace, between Laird Pitcarne of Pitlour and the Laird of Duncrub.

The Laird of Duncrub was the ancestor of the present Lord Rollo. These gentlemen had probably disagreed on some point; and, as they were neighbours, it was necessary to bind them over to keep the peace.

The roads in these days were evidently in a bad state, and there is a note in the Register of the Privy Council that

The roads near the Erne were to be repaired in the parish of Ebdie, Auchtermuchtie, Strathmeglo, Arnegosk, and the landis pertaining to the Lairdis of Balvaird and Pitlour, within the parish of Abernethy.<sup>3</sup>

Arngask and Balvaird were now in possession of the son of Sir William Murray and his wife Barbara *née* Pitcarne.

There seems to have been some friction between Patrick Pitcarne and the folks of Auchtermuchty, for in 1623 there is a "Caution in £1000 by William Ricartoun of Corskillis, for the baillies, Council, community, and inhabitants of Auchtermuchty, not to molest Patrick Pitcarne of Pitloure, his family, tenants, or servants; and another caution in £1000, by Henry Pitcarne of that Ilk, for Patrik Pitcarne of Pitloure, not to molest the folks of Auchtermuchtie. Signed by both."

<sup>1</sup> Reg. of the Privy Council, 1065.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. of the Privy Council.

Henry Pitcarne of Forthar was Patrick's cousin.

In 1623 Patrick seems to have fallen out with the Ramsays, for there is

Caution by Pitcarne of Pitforthar in 1000 merks, that Patrik Pitcarne of Pitloure will not molest Mr David, Robert, and Mr James Ramsay, brothers to Sir James Ramsay of Corston, nor their tenants or servants.

And again there was

Caution given by John Ramsay in Pittocho, in 500 merks each for the said Mr David, Robert, and Mr James Ramsay, that they will not molest Mr Patrik Pitcarne of Pitlour, nor his tenants or servants.

These Ramsays were connections of the Pitcarnes, as Elizabeth Pitcarne, sister to Henry Pitcarne, eleventh lord of Pitcarne, married Sir John Ramsay in 1495.<sup>1</sup> His son was Sir James Ramsay.

In 1623, in the Register of the Privy Council, "Patrik Pitcarne of Pitlour and Henrie Pitcarne of Forthar" are mentioned as being Justices of the Peace for Fife and Kinross.

In 1636<sup>2</sup> there is a Charter by King Charles I., to Thomas Ogilvie, younger of Hilkairne (or Pittcairne), and Margaret Pitcarne his wife, of the sunny half of the lands of Hilkairnes with manor.

In 1637 Patrick Ogilvie of Inchmartin resigns lands of Urquhart and Streidmureland, in the lordship of Balmerino, to Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour, and on Nov. 1643 the King gives or ratifies the charter of Urquhart to Patrick Pitcarne. (Margaret Pitcarne may have been Patrick's daughter.)

In 1643<sup>3</sup> Mr Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour was Justice of the Peace for Fife and Kinross, with his cousin Henry Pitcarne of Forthar, and the Commission under the Signet was given to Pitcarne of Forthar, Broun of Finmouth, James Clerk of Balbirnie, — of Kinnadie and John Boiswall of Pittedie, or any two of them, to try Issobell Mawer in the Weymis, who has been long suspected of the crymes of witchcraft, sorcerie, using of charmeschant-

<sup>1</sup> Registers of Privy Council in Scotland, 2nd Series, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lvii. No. 367.

<sup>3</sup> Registers of Privy Council in Scotland, 2nd Series, vol. i.

mentis and other devillishe practises offensive to God, slandell to the trow religion and hurt of diverse of our goode subjectis. She is now in ward in the Tolbooth of Dysart.

The same to try Patrik Landrok, Helene Darumpill, Jonnet Pedie, and Helen Dryburgh in the Weymis, who this long time have been suspected of the crimes of witchcraft, sorcerie, using of charmes and enchantiments and other devillishe practizes, which having confessed they are now in ward in the Tolbooth of Dysart.<sup>1</sup>

Signed by the Chancellor, Mar, Roxburgh, Dunkeld, Stormont, and Colvill.

This was a most terrible time of cruelty and ignorance. Poor people were done to death for witchcraft, burnt, and put to horrible tortures.

King Charles I. gave Patrick Pitcarne some more lands:—

On November 26, 1643, charter by the King to Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour, of the lands of Urquhart, with the coals, &c., lands of Steadmureland, &c., in the lordship and barony of Balmerino, Shire of Fife, which were resigned by Patrick Ogilvie of Inchmartin and others on the 13th June 1637, and the said Patrick and Robert his son, now deceased, were resigners.<sup>2</sup>

On August 16, 1650, William, Patrick's son, was married. Lamont says in his Diary—

Young Pitloure, surnamed Pitcarne, married Alisone Rig, Eatherie's second sister; the marriage feast "such as it was" stood at Eatherey.

Pitlour and Auchnarie—

On the 13th of April 1653 William Pitcarne, fiar of Pitloure (on contract entered into between him on the one part, and Alisone Rig his spouse with consent of Mr Thomas Rig of Aithernie her brother-german on the other part, dated the 9th of April 1653), infested his said spouse in liferent in the lands of Drungie lying in the barony of Balmerinock and shire of Fife, and in his two tofts, bakehouse and barn, lying in the town of Stramiglo and Yard thereof pertaining to the said William, and in the Stonehouse at the West end of Stramiglo then occupied by Robert Cupar with the crofts lying thereto, and pasturage and commonty thereto belonging, lying in the shire aforesaid and in the sunny quarter of the lands of Easter Pitloure, and in an annual rent of 36 bolls 2 firlots victual (20 bolls

<sup>1</sup> State Register of Privy Council for Scotland, 2nd Series, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lvii. No. 367.

beir 16 bolls 2 firloths oats) and 34s. 8d. Scots, yearly, to be levied out of the other three quarters of the said lands of Easter Pitlour.<sup>1</sup>

On 10th March 1658 Henry Pitcarne of Larestoune, acting as baillie of William Pitcarne of Pitlour, gave sasine to Alisone Rigg, spouse of said William, of an annual rent of 20 bolls oats, 12 bolls meal, 10 bolls bere, and £30 Scots, out of said William's lands of Wester Pitlour and Auchnarie, and that in lieu of her liferent sasine of the lands of Drymmie, which were disposed on by her husband with her consent.<sup>2</sup>

On 10th March 1658 Henry Pitcarne of Larestoune, acting as baillie for William Pitcarne of Pitlour, gave sasine to the latter's wife of a liferent provision.<sup>3</sup>

In 1670 Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour died, a very old man. His son Robert was buried the same day. Patrick left two other sons, William and Henry.

Lamont in his Diary says:—

Old Pitloure in Fife, surnamed Pitcarne, departed out of this life at Pitloure, as also one of his sonnes: they were both buried in one day, 5th Sept. 1670.

#### WILLIAM PITCARNE OF PITLOUR.

On August 29, 1671, William Pitcarne of Pitlour was served heir-male to his brother-german Robert Pitcarne in the town, village, and lands of Wester Pitloure and Auchnorie.

A. E. 3 l. N. E. 12 l. Retours for Fife.

Lands of Easter Pitloure, with the moat and manor place of Pitloure, in the Barony of Strathmiglo, privilege of common rights, and pasturage in the Lowmonds of Falkland, and in the hills of Auchtermuchtie, lands in Strathmiglo, with pasturage in the Lowmonds, and 3 crofts in Strathmeglo.

A. E. 3 l. N. E. 12 l.

All united with all lands in the "Vicecomitatu" of Perth

<sup>1</sup> Perth Sasines, Series 4, vol. i. fol. 352.

<sup>2</sup> Perth Sasines, vol. v. fol. 89.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. v. fol. 89.



in the tenandry of Pitloure, town and lands of Streidmureland in the dominion or lordship of Balmerino.

E. 6 l. E.<sup>1</sup>

This was a time of much persecution for religious opinions, and the Pitcairns were not exempt:—

In 1674 the following gentlemen of Fife were fined for being at Conventicles and listening to a Mr Welsh—Sir John Kirkaldy of Grange £500 Scots, the Laird of Raith £850, George Scott of Pitlochry in a £1000, William Pitcarne of Pitlour £1050, and Henry Pitcarne of Larestown in £200; the latter was William Pitcarne of Pitlour's brother and baillie. Charles Cowan of Causton £333, Robert Colville of Balvaird in £100, Robert Shaw, a portioner in Auchtermuchty, £49; James Hamilton in £150; Maxwell, Provost of Auchtermuchty, £250; Mr George Heriot of Ramorny £983. They were all ordered to lie in prison till they paid the said sums.<sup>2</sup> None of them was sett at liberty until they had paid their fynes, and yet some of them declared that if they had taken the oath of Supremacy they would have been set at liberty at once.

On the 23 July still greater severity was practised with certain gentlemen. The Council again fined Harry Pitcarne of Larestoun in £1200, Pitcarne of Pitlour in 2000 merks, George Scott of Pitlochry in £1000, Charles Cowan of Causton in £1000, by and after the sums they were liable to and fined for their being at Conventicles and upon the account of harbouring Mr John Welsh, Minister.<sup>3</sup>

July 18, 1683, Sir Thomas Hope of Craighall, Skene of Hal-yards, elder, with many other Lothian Gentlemen, are indicted for converse with rebels and resetting them on their lands, of which in some measure the whole gentry east and west are chargeable, and upon their taking the test they are dismissed.

The Pitcarnes had been heavily fined for their religious opinions—William Pitcarne in £1050, and again in 2000 merks, and Henry in £200 and in £1200; so it is no wonder they were embarrassed. At any rate, they made a disposition of Pitlour to Helen Pitcarne's husband, John Skene, in 1683; but whether the Pitcairns sold it or gave it is not quite clear.

<sup>1</sup> Indices of Retours for the County of Fife, vol. xxx. fol. 229.

<sup>2</sup> Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 238.

<sup>3</sup> Wodrow's Church of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 244.

## HENRY PITCAIRNE OF PITLOUR.

After William Pitcarne's death his brother Henry succeeded him to Pitlour, which the following clearly shows:—

Henry Pitcarne of Pitloure, male heir of William of Pitloure, his brother-german, in town and lands of Wester Pitloure and Auchnorie (A. E. 3 b., N. E. 12). Lands of Easter Pitloure with manor place of Pitloure, in the Barony of Strathmeglo, with pastures, in the Lowmonds of Falkland, and in the hills of Auchtermuchtie, the lands of Strathmeglo, with 2 crofts and tofts, in the toun of Strathmeglo (A. E. 3 b., N. E. 12), all in the tenandry of Pitloure, the town and lands of Streidmureland in the Lordship of Balmerinock (E. 6 B. Feudiferma, September 17, 1675.<sup>1</sup>

Henry Pitcarne, as has been stated, succeeded his brother William to the lands and manor of Easter and Wester Pitlour, in parts of the village of Strathmiglo, and the village and lands of Streidmureland.

Henry had one son, Patrick Pitcairne, who on Henry's death succeeded him.

<sup>1</sup> From Canon Pitcairn's Papers. Indices of Retours for Scotland, vol. xxxii. fol. 182.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

## PATRICK PITCAIRNE (II.) OF PITLOUR.

PATRICK PITCAIRNE of Pitlour married Margaret Wilson. He had three sons: 1, William Pitcairne, born 1682, or *before*, who is mentioned in the Edinburgh City Births as son of Patrick Pitcairne, and was a witness in 1692; 2, Patrick, baptised 17th October 1690; 3, James, 28th October 1692. Helen Pitcairne, who married John Skene, must have been much older than her brothers, as she was married about 1695. The witnesses to the brothers' baptisms were

Patrick Firma, merchant,	1690.
Alex. Hamilton of Kincail,	1690.
James Smitoun, merchant,	1690, 1692.
Rob. Pitcairne, writer,	1690, 1692 (sponsor).
John Pitcairne, writer,	1692.
William Pitcairne, son to Patrick,	1692.
James Brown, merchant,	1692.

—Edinburgh City Birth Records.

The Alexander Hamilton of Kincail (or Kinkell) mentioned here married Margaret, the daughter of Alexander Pitcairne of that Ilk and Forthar; and her mother was Margaret Threipland of Fingask. Mr Hamilton and his wife suffered great religious persecution, an account of which is given in the history of the Pitcairns of Forthar.

Patrick had an only daughter Helen, who married John Skene of Halyards; and on the 22nd of November 1683

Henry and his son Patrick made a disposition of the Pitlour estate to John Skene. There are inserted here three old deeds: I. Disposition of Pitlour to John Skene; II. Copy of an old contract of marriage between John Skene and Helen Pitcairne. III. The will of John Skene, disposing his property to his wife and his son David Skene. The original documents are still extant, and in the possession of W. B. Skene, Esq., the present owner of Pitlour, by whose kind courtesy I was allowed to copy extracts from them. The old wording and spelling, to which I have adhered, is interesting and quaint:—

### *I. Disposition of Pitlour to Mr John Skene.*

To Mr Charles Robinson, writer in Edinburgh; disposition of Henry Pitcairne of Pitlour to John Skene of Hallyeirds, dated 22 and 24 November 1683.

Disposition by Henry Pitcairne of Pitlour and Patrick Pitcairne, jun., of Pitlour, his eldest sone, in favour of John Skene of Hallyards, and after his desease to the eldest for the time, of John, Charles, and Thomas Skene, sons of John Skene, junr., of Hallyards, and the heirs male of their bodys during the lifetime of their said Father. And after the succession of the eldest to their said Father's Estates, to the next eldest successively, and the heirs male of their bodys respectively. Of the land of Wester Pitlour and Auchnarie and Easter Pitlour, with commonty and common pasturage of feuing of the lands in the Townships of Falkland and Hills of Auchtermuchty. Of the land of Stridmuirland and ffriarmill and Teinds of ffriarmill, dated 22 and 24 November 1683.

### *II. The Contract of Marriage.*

1. Contract of Marriage between John Skene of Halyairds and Helen Pitcairne, his spouse, dated the 9th July 1700. Providing her in a free Life rent of a thousand marks, after his decease, furth of the lands of Easter and Wester Pitlour, Auchnarie and Streidmuireland with Precept of Seisin. And she assigns to him her life rent right of all Bonds, Heretable estate and Moveables belonging to him.

"The ninth day July 1700 years it is Contracted and finally endit betwixt ye pairties followiing, that is to say, John Skene of Halyairds and Helen Pitcairne, his spouse, Laifull





JOHN SKENE, OF PITLOUR.



daughter to Patrick Pitcairne, sometyme of Pitlour upon ye ane and oyer pairth, in mainer, subsoquent yeat is to say forasmuch, as the said John Skene, Helen Pitcairne, spouse ye seberell yeirs, bygone solemnized, and compleited ye Holy bond of Marriage, and yer being no contract of marriage betwixt yem naiyer befor nor since yeir mariage. So that ye said ye Helen Pitcairne is as yett unprovided to any provisione for her subsistane, after ye death of the said John Skene, hir husband thereffore the said John Skene ; in implement and fulfilling of his matrimoniall promise, made be him to hir, at the aggreement of hir marriage, and for hir lyveliehood in a word. In case shee survives him . . . [gives her an annuity of one thousand merks].

The said John Skene oblidges him and his aforesaides to make payment of ane thousand merkes to his said Spouse during hir lyftyme as saidis ffurth of the lands of Pitlour or any other movables, or heretable Estate that shall belong to David Skene their sone, or be provyded to him be the said John Skene his Father no wayes furth of any other estate pertaining to the said John Skene, free of all private and publick burdens, whatsomever. In the which annuity of ane thousand merkes the said John Skene binds and oblidges him, his heirs and successors, to duly and lawfully infest, and seise the said Helen Pitcairne, his spouse in life rent, dureing all the dayes of hir lyftyme, yeirly to be raised at the said four termes in the yeir, Mertimes, Candlesmiss, Whitsunday, and Lambas, by equall proportiones FFURTH OFF ALL THE SAID lands the toune and lands of Wester Pitlour, and Auchnorie, with the pairts, pendicles and annexis, connexis, dependaines, outsetts, tenents, tennandraies, and service of free tenents of the samen and sicklyke FFURTH OFF ALL AND SUNDRIE The Lands of Easter Pitlour with the foss and mainer place of Pitlour, yairds, orchards, pairts pendicles annexis, connexis dependainces, outsetts, tennants tennandries, and service of the samen, and Haill pertinents therof lying within the barronie of Stramiglo and Shirroffdome of Ffyfe with full right and priviledge of commonty and pasturage in the Lomonds of Ffalkland and in the hills of Aughtermughtie, corresponding to the quantity of the saide lands conforme to use and custome as also FFURTH OFF ALL AND THE HAILL the toune and Lands of Stidmuirlands with Houss, biggins, yairds, orchards, pastureages and haill pertinents the samen used and wont, lying within the lordshipe of Balmerino, and shirroffdome of Ffyfe and sicklyke FFURTH OFF ALL AND THE HAILL.

The toune and Lands off ffrier Milne, with houss, biggins, yairds, tofts, crofts, and haille other pertinents lying within the barrony of Pitgorno paroch of Straemiglo Lordshipe or Balmerino and Sheirroffdome of Ffyfe forsaid together with the teynd, and teynd sheaves

great and small, parsonage and Viccarage of the samen or Ffurth of any other and all rents that shall be provyded by the said John Skene to the said David Skene, wherever the same lye within in this Kingdom or Ffurth of any pairt or portion thereof.

**FURTH OFF ALL AND HAILL.** The said toune and landes of Western Pitloure, Auchnorie, with the pairts, pendicles, annexes, connexes dependences, outsets, tenents, tenendries, and service of feu tenents of the same and sicklyke **FURTH OF ALL AND HAILL.** The lands of Eastern Pitlour with the foss and Mainer place of Pitlour, yairds, orchardes, pairts, pendicles annexies, connexis, dependices, outsets, tenents tenendries, and service of free tenents of the same and haill pertinents thereof, with full right, priviledge of commonty, and pastureage in the Lommonts of Ffalkland, and in the hills of Aughtermughtie, corresponding to the quantity of the said lands conformed to use and custom, as also Ffurth of all and Haill.

The said toune and lands of Steidmureland with houss, biggins, yairds, orchards, pasturages and haill pertinents of the same used and wont and sycklyke **FFURTH OF ALL AND HAILL.** The said toune and lands of ffriermilne with house and biggins, yairds, tofts, crofts and haill, other pertinents all lying as said is together with teyndis, sheaves, great and small, Parsonage and Vicarage of the same, Ffurth, of any other lands or rents shall be provided by the said John Skene, to the said David Skene, his sone, wherever the same lye within this kingdom or Ffurth of any part or portion thereof, mealls, fermes, profitts, deutys of the same.

To the said Helen Pitcairne in liferent, during her lyftyme as said is by delyverie to her, or to certaine acting in her name, bearer thereof of earth and stone of the ground of the said lands, and handfull of corne, for the said tokens, and one penny money uses, and this on noways they leave undone, the which to do we do commits to them and ilk ane of them conjunctly and severally in that part as full and irrevocable power be their presence because the said John Skene, hereby wills and ordains thereat the said Helen Pitcairne his spouse for keep and in family the said David Skene their Sone in family with herselfe, and cause educate him to Schooles and Colledges, according to his rank and degree, and for that effect the said John Skene hereby assigns and dispones to the said Helen Pitcairne his spouse yearly and ilk year during the said David Skene his remaining in family with her after the death of the said John Skene his Father and her widowhood allenary. **ALL AND SUNDRIES** The Haille Mealls, feus, customs, and duties, of whatsoever lands and heritages and the rent to whatsoever sums of money or heritable or movable that shall be provided to him be the said John Skene his Father to be managed, uplifted, and im-





DAVID SKENE, OF PITLOUR.



proved by the said Helen Pitcairne during widowtie Allenarly to the use and utility the said David Skene her Sone. What is and shall be paid be her said Sone's entertainment and education at Schoolls and Colledges. FOR WHICH CAUSES on the other part, the said Helen Pitcairne not only hereby axepts of the aforesaid one thousand merkes yeirly in satisfaction to her of all conjunct free lyfe rent, and thried of movables goods, gear, and others whatsoever that shoe bee anywayes provided to heretofour any mainer of waye, that might befall to her be the death of the said John Skene hir husband, and hereby exoners and dischaarges the said John Skene hir husband his representatives, and all others concerned thereof for ever. EXCEPTING what sumes of money for plenishing for ane house and others, the said John Skene of his own will and pleasure shall be pleased to provide and dispone to his said spouse hereafter. BUT ALSO in respect the said Helen Pitcairne is provided in lyfe rent to severall debts and sums of money pairtly heritable and pairtly moveable due by sundrie persons to the said John Skene therefore the said Helen Pitcairne thereby assigns and dispones hir haille lyfe rent right of the aforesaid debts alls weell heretable as moveable due be ye whatsoever persons all persons To which shoe is provided in lyfe rent in favours of the said John Skene hir husband his heirs and assignes whatsoever, &c. Written before the said witness, the said James Moyes and Adam Peirson, Writer of breef, John Willard, by the said John Skene.

Ja. Moyes, *Witness.*

Ad. Peirson, *Witness.*

John Willard, *Witness.*

JOHN SKENE.

HELEN PITCAIRNE.

### III. *John Skene's Will.*

REGRATT ASSIGNATION AND DISPOSITION, JOHN SKENE elder of Halyeirds, to DAVID SKENE, his Son, and HELEN PITCAIRNE, his Spouse.

Att Edinburgh, the third day of February 1708 years, in presence of ye Lords of Counsil and Session, compeared Mr Matthew Macbeth advocate has proe for John Skene aforesaid and signed and gave in ye disposition and assignation under written desiring the same insert in ye books of Counsil and Session to remand for confirmation when deferred the said Lordes.

Ye for ordained thereby the same to be done accordingly of this disposition, and assignation the tenor follows—

I, John Skene, elder of Hallyeards considering I'm grown old and infirm, and been of intention to avoyd all contrivises and de-

bates that may arise amongst my nearest friends, anent the plenishing, and moveables of my dwelling house of Grange, and any bestiall upon any part of ye barronnys of Hallyeirds, Grange, that shall happened to be possessed and laboured by me, ye time of mine desease, when the same should happen at ye pleasure of Almighty God. Anent my farmes, lands due to me Furth of the said lands and barronnys and growth orchards thereof falling due to me, and in my possession, in the time of, and proceeding my desease and annual years' rents of the farms that shall fall due to me at my desease. Therefore the greet love and affection which I have and bear to David Skene my only son, procreate between Helen Pitcairne my present spouse and me, and the said Helen Pitcairne my said Spouse will to have sold assigned and disposed by their presence sole, assigned simpliciter disposed from me, my heirs and all oyes my assigns to, and in favour of, the said David Skene. My said son his heirs and assigns whatsoever, and to the said Helen Pitcairne his Mother for her said son, his use utility and profit, during his minority and nonage parting of him by desease to the said Helen Pitcairne to be disposed of and used to her, at her pleasure, and that by, and attour, any life rent provision granted by me, to ye said Helen Pitcairne, declaring all and sundrie goods, geir and household plenishing, utensils, gold and silver, bestialls, horses, sheeps, growth, crops, . . . lands, feus mealls rents and dutys of lands, cloath duties, &c., about my dwelling house, and barronnys, about Halliyeirds, and Grange pertaining and added to the time of my desease. . . . In favour of the said David Skene and his forsaid and to the said Helen Pitcairne my said spouse, for her said sone, bringing up and behoof during his minority and nonage, and in case of his desease to the said Helen Pitcairne whom I hereby surrogate and substitute in my room, of ye whole premises with full power to ye said Helen Pitcairne after my said desease for the behove aforesaid intermitt, with the aforesaid goods geirs, plenishing, bestialls, corn crops growth and lands, and dispose thereon generally sundrie other things, to doe as I might have done thereon myself in my own lyfetye and lastly I do hereby declare, that what of the above goods geirs shall be bestowed on her for ye defraying of the expenses of the funeralls, shall be allowed and deducted to her of ye first and of her intermissions by virtue thereof, and hereby empower the said Helen Pitcairne to uplift and receive what rents and sums due to me the time aforesaid, of my desease, to be bestowed to the said David Skene, his use, like as I hereby oblige me to enter the said David Skene and Helen Pitcairne in the possession of the household goods, geir, household plenishing, and other assigned and disposed and for that effect,—and ilk ane of you and several whom



I require to put the said David Skene and Helen Pitcairne for his behoof in possession of the aforesaid goods, geir, and others above disposed by delivery, to him or hir, the bearer in their name any part thereof which shall be sufficient consenting to the registration in ye Book of Council and Session, or other competent one to remand for conservacione, and I constitute, Mr Matthew Mikell advocate my proxy in witness thereof written be Alexander Luchar, Servitor to Mr Henry Scrimsour, Writter to the Signett. I have subscribed these presents at Grange, the seventh day of December seventeen hundred and five years before these Witnesses David Blayth and David Wemyss Writter in Edinburgh, inspector of the place, date, witnesses' name and designations, sic sube John Skene, David Clark, Witnes, David Wemyss, Witness. Extraction by me,  
JA. DALRYMPLE.

Sir James Melville, in his 'Memoirs,' mentions a John Skene when he went about King James VI.'s marriage to Denmark. Probably a relation of John Skene of Pitlour. He said:—

"I told His Majesty, That I would chuse to take with me for a Lawyer, Mr John Skeen. His Majesty said, he judged there were many better Lawyers.

I said, he was best acquainted with the German customs, and could make them long harangues in Latin; that he was a good true stout man, like a Dutch man. Then His Majesty was content that he should go with me.<sup>1</sup>

Eight gentlemen of the law were called from their number Octavians, and had the management of the Revenues. Alexander Seaton, President of the Session; Walter Stewart, Commendator of Blantyre, Lord Privy Seal; David Carnegie; John Lindsay; James Elphinston; Thomas Hamilton; John Skene, Clerk Register; and Peter Young, Elemosynar.

I give the following particulars of the Skene family given to me by Mr Douglas Govan. He says:—

My great-great-great-grandmother was Helen Pitcairne of Pitlour. She became the second wife of John Skene of Halyards, and was daughter of Patrick Pitcairne, from whom in 1683 John Skene had the disposition of the estate. Her son, David Skene (born 17th

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Melville's Memoirs.

January 1696), succeeded to the estate of Pitlour, in terms of his father's settlement, and on the 25th July 1718 married Jean Douglas of Strathendry, by whom he had three sons and three daughters—

1, Robert Skene, who succeeded him.

2, Philip Skene, who succeeded his brother.

3, David Skene, a captain in the 28th Regiment, who died May 11, 1788, leaving by his wife, Elizabeth Morison of Naughton, one son, David Skene, who succeeded his uncle Philip. He died a minor in 1803, and was succeeded in the estate by his aunt, Helen Skene, who was married in 1746 to Colonel George Moncrieff of Rudie and Myres.

The pictures of the first Patrick Pitcarne of Pitlour, John Skene, and his son David Skene, the originals of which are still at Pitlour, are reproduced in this book through the kindness of Mr Skene.

BRANCH II.—PITCAIRNS OF PITLOUR.

**HENRY PITCARNE,**——EGIDIA MELVILLE.  
**Xlth** laird of that Ilk, and  
 Forthar and **1st** of Pitlour, 1504;  
**IInd** laird, 1489.

**XII. David Pitcarne,**  
laird of Pitcairn  
and Forthar.

11. John Pitcarne  
of Drungy ;  
of Pitlour, 1536 ;  
*d.* 1597.

KATHERINE,  
*m.*  
JOHN BALLINGALL.

MARJORY,  
*m.*  
ROBERT WHYTE  
of Kilgraston  
and Balnethiel.

HENRY PITCARNE,  
died before  
his father.

**III. Patrick Pitcarne**  
of Pitlour,  
served heir to  
John of Pitlour,  
grandfather,  
1597,  
and great-grandmother,  
same day, 1597 ;  
d. 5th Sept. 1670.

WILLIAM PITCAR  
of Pitlour, Fife,  
*d.* 1584-85.

WILLIAM  
of Kirkton Milne,  
of Innerkeilour,  
1589-90, 1613.

JOHN.

JAMES  
of Drunghe,  
1542.

WILLIAM  
of Petlour,  
son of James,  
1542.

ROBERT PITCARNE  
of Petloure;  
*d.* 5th Sept. 1670;  
buried with his father:  
*d. s. p.*

IV. William, —  
served heir to Robert,  
Aug. 1671;  
d. Sept. 7, 1675.  
d. s. p.

—ALISON RIG,  
of Eatheries;  
m. 1650;  
infested in  
Drunghe, 1653.

**V. Henry Pitcarne,**  
succeeded to Pitlour,  
Sept. 17, 1675.

JOHN PITCARNE  
of Kirkcoun  
Milne,  
1616.

VI. Patrick Pitcairne=MARGARET WILSON.  
of Pitlour.

HELEN PITCAIRNE=VII. John Skene  
of Pitlour; of Halyards  
m. 1695. and Pitlour.

WILLIAM,  
*b. ante 1682.*

PATRICK,  
b. 1690.

JAMES,  
b. 1692.

VIII. David Skene =	JEAN DOUGLAS
of Pitlour;	of
b. 17th Jan. 1696.	Strathendry; m. 25th July 1718.

**XII. Helen Skene,** = Col. GEO. MONCRIEFF  
 aunt to David Skene of Rudie and Myres  
 (No. 3), succeeded Castle;  
 him in Pitlour. m. 1746.

**IX. Robert Skelton**  
succeeded to  
Pitlour.

**X. Philip Skene,**  
succeeded  
Robert  
in Pitlour.

DAVID, = ELIZABETH d. 1788.	MORISON of Naughton.
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**XI. Capt. David Skene,**  
28th Regiment;  
*d. s. p.* 1803;  
(No. 3),  
succeeded his uncle Philip  
to Pitlour;  
and was succeeded by  
his aunt Helen Skene.

## BRANCH III.

### THE PITCAIRNES OF PITCAIRNE AND UNSTOUN.



ARMS OF PITCAIRNE OF PITCAIRNE.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### THE PITCAIRNES OF PITCAIRNE.

*The Arms of Pitcairne of Pitcairne.*—The following is from Nisbet's *Scottish Heraldry*, vol. i. p. 215:—

The surname of Pitcairn, argent three mascles gules, as in Pont's manuscript. But in our New Register they are called lozenges.

Pitcairn of that Ilk: Quarterly, 1st and 4th argent, three lozenges gules (so-called); 2nd and 3rd argent, an eagle with wings displayed sable, for Ramsay. They got the lands of Forthar by marrying the heiress, from which lands the family is non-designed. And the lands of *Pitcairn* went off with a younger son, of whom was lineally descended *Alexander Pitcairn of Pitcairn*, who carried the same quartered arms of *Pitcairn* of that Ilk and Forthar, *within*



*a bordure engrailed gules* ; Crest, a moon in her complement proper ; Motto, Plena Refulget.—Lyon Register. Which family was represented by that learned and eminent physician *Archibald Pitcairn*, who carries the arms of Pitcairn only within a border ermine.

In the Lyon Register about 1672 Alexander Pitcairne of Pitcairne is described as

whose father was son of Pitcairne, “thus carefully guarding against the assumption of the style of ‘that Ilk’ by a cadet, although in possession of the old family property (of Pitcairn) recorded the same arms, but with the addition of a border engrailed gules. This was the son of John Pitcairne of Unstoun, who bought Pitcairne.”

The Pitcairnes of Pitcairne and Unstoun were cadets of the House of Forthar. Henry Pitcairne of that Ilk, fifteenth laird of Pitcairne and Forthar, married Isabel, daughter of Sir Michael Balfour of Montquhanny, in 1586, and had five sons: 1, David Pitcairne, who succeeded to Forthar; 2, Robert Pitcairne, Servitor to Prince Charles in 1622; 3, James Pitcairne of Tretton; 4, John Pitcairne of Unstoun, the ancestor of the Pitcairnes of Pitcairne; 5, Andrew Pitcairne, page to the Duke of York, 1612, and Master Falconer to the King.

#### JOHN PITCAIRNE OF UNSTOUN AND PITCAIRNE.

John Pitcairne of Unstoun was the ancestor of the celebrated Dr Archibald Pitcairne: he bought Pitcairne from his nephew, William Pitcairne of that Ilk, in 1650. John Pitcairne died in 1652, leaving three sons: 1, John Pitcairne, who succeeded to Unstoun and Pitcairne; 2, Alexander; 3, Thomas, born in 1634; and one daughter, married to Henry Pitcairne, his nephew, son of James Pitcairne of Tretton.

On the 5th of January 1653 his son, John, is called Pitcairne of Unstoun, in the parish of Markinch, so he had then succeeded his father to the Unstoun property, and was living there. Three years before this (according to Lamont) his father “had bought from the Laird of Forthar [William Pitcairne of that Ilk] the lands of Pitcairne in Fife, and he describes John as being ‘a branch of the house of

Forthar, and he bought Pitcairne from the Pitcairne who married the daughter of the Laird of Lugton' (who was William Pitcairne of that Ilk), who married the daughter of Sir David Creichtoun of Lugton."

The following extracts from Lamont's Diary mention James and John Pitcairne, sons of Henry of that Ilk, and also their children:—

1651, *April*. Mr John Durie, minister of Logie, departed this life. Mr Harry Pitcarne did succeed him, son to Mr James Pitcairn that dwelt sometime at Tretton.

1652. The General Assembly appointed Mr Andro Louthian, and Mr *Andro* or *Alexander Pitcairne* for to goe to Caithness. P. 45.

1652, *August* 21. John Pitcairne, elder of Ounstoun in Fyfe, departed out of this life at his dwelling house in the Saltgreine (he died of a cancer in his face), and was interred at the church of Scoonie, Aug. 27, 1652.

1653, *May* 4. Mr Harry Pitcairne, minister of Loggie, in the Presbytrie of Cupar-Fyfe, married one of umqll. Jhone Pitcairne of Ounstone his daughters. The marriage feast stood at Saltgreine in his brother's house. P. 41.

1654. *May* 25. James Pitcairne (who lived in Tretton formerlie so long as his wife lived) departed out of this life at his house in the Saltgreine, and was interred in Scoonie Church, 27 May.

John Pitcairne of Unstoun and Pitcairne died 1652, at his house in the Saltgreine, and was interred in Scoonie Church, Aug. 27, 1652.

He was succeeded in the estates of Unstoun and Pitcairne by his eldest son, John Pitcairne, who then handed over to his brother, Alexander Pitcairne, the estate of Kilmurkis in 1653, Alexander buying the Unstoun estate for 12,540 merks in 1654.

John died, and was succeeded in the Pitcairne estate by his brother Alexander.

1653, *January* 26th. John Pitcairne, heir of line of John Pitcairne of Unstoun, his father, in the lands of Unstoun, within the parish of Scoony. The lands of Kilmukis-Wester, with the Teinds, common Pasturage, and liberty of feu in the common of Dovine, within the regality of St Andrews. The lands of Wester

Newtoun, within the Barony of Dalguish, and parish of Kinnquhy, in warrandice of the lands of Kilmukis, the toun and lands of Pitcairne within the parish of Leslie. An annual-rent of 400 merks of the toun and lands of Auchtermairnie, and two pairt lands of Laletnam, in the parish of Kennoquhie.<sup>1</sup>

Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, 1652-1659, Edinburgh, *December 20, 1653.*

The keepers confirm a charter, with precept of sasine therein contained, dated 15th July 1653, granted by Johne Pitcairne of Unstoune to Alexander Pitcairne, merchant burgess of Edinburgh, his brother-german, and Jeanet Sydserff, his spouse, and longest liver of them two, in conjunct fee, and to the heirs lawfully gotten or to be gotten betwixt them, whom failing to the said Alexander his heirs and assignees whomsoever, heritably and irredeemably,—of the lands of Kilmuckes Wester, with their pertinents, &c., with the teinds of the said lands included, which were never separate from the stock, but used to be put together with the said lands, together with common pasture and liberty of carting and winning of fuel, feal, and divot in the common of Dovan, with free ish and entry thereto, lying in the regality of St Andrews and Sheriffdom of Fife:—To be hold of the said Johne Pitcairne and his heirs, or from him of his immediate lawful superiors;—Giving therefor £5 Scots as feu-farm of the said lands and teinds, 40s. augmentation, 20s. in contentation of 12 capons yearly in use to be paid from the said lands, and 40s. yearly in payment of grassum, in all £10 for the lands of Kilmuckes Wester, with the teinds; and for the said commonty 3s. 4d., with 20d. augmentation; giving also three suits to three head courts yearly to be held in the monastery of St Andrews; doubling the said feu-duty on entry of heirs; with clause of warrandice:—Together with the instrument of sasine thereupon taken in the hands of Magnus Aytoune, clerk of Bruntisland, notary public, dated 26th July, and registered at Cupar 2nd August 1653. Writer of charter: David Miller, servitor to the said Magnus Aytoune. Witnesses: William Pitcairne of that Ilk (son of David Pitcairne of that Ilk and Forthar) and James Pitcairne son to James Pitcairne in Innerlevine uncle to the said Johne Pitcairne. Witnesses to sasine: James Aird, flesher in Kirkcaldie; James Bettsone there, Andrew Wallace in Kilmuck, and Thomas Mathie, son to Robert Mathie in Unstoune. Bailie: George Strauchane, younger, in Leavin.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Retours of Fife, vol. xxi. fol. 218.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lix. No. 124.

*Charter.*

The Protector confirms (1) the charter, dated at Kilmukis, 30th March 1654, granted by John Pitcairne of Unstoun to Alexander Pitcairne of Kilmukis, his brother, whereby for the sum of 12,540 merks he disposed to the said Alexander, his heirs and assignees, the lands of Unstoun in the parish of Skuny and sheriffdom of Fife:—To be held of the said David,<sup>1</sup> or from him of his immediate superiors, paying therefor to the said David 1d. Scots if asked in name of blench-farm, and to his immediate superiors the rights and services used and wont; with clause of warrandice, and precept of sasine directed to David Millar in Bruntiland. Writer of charter, David Millar, servitor to Magnus Aytoun, clerk of Bruntiland; witnesses, the said Magnus Aytoun and Thomas Mackie, eldest son to Thomas Mackie in Unstoun. (2) Instrument of sasine following thereon, dated 4th April 1654. Bailie, David Miller; notary, Magnus Aytoun; wits. Mr Harie Rymer, minister at Carnbie, David Ritchie his servant; Walter Wallace in Kilmukis, and Micheall Kellock in Bruntiland.

EDINBURGH, *July 21, 1654.*<sup>2</sup>

1655, *March 9.* Younge Blackhall in Fife, married Jean Pitcairne, daughter to James Pitcairne, who formerly lived at Tretton in Kennochie parish. The marriage feast stood at Blackhall, his father's house in the foresaid parish.<sup>3</sup>

The Jean Pitcairne here mentioned is James Pitcairne's daughter, niece to David Pitcairne of that Ilk, and cousin of Alexander Pitcairne of Unstoun.

#### ALEXANDER PITCAIRNE OF PITCAIRNE AND UNSTOUN.

Alexander Pitcairne succeeded to Pitcairne in Fife after the death of his brother, John of Unstoun and Pitcairne.

He was bailie, and an eminent merchant of Edinburgh in 1673.

He married Janet Sydserff, descended from the ancient Sydserffs of Ruchlaw in East Lothian.

A descendant of the Sydserffs<sup>4</sup> was Bishop Thomas Syd-

<sup>1</sup> David Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, uncle of Alexander of Unstoun.

<sup>2</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lix. No. 159.

<sup>3</sup> Lamont's Diary, p. 86.

<sup>4</sup> From Wood's East Neuk of Fife, p. 247, edited 1889.



serff, whose son Dr Sydserff married a sister of William Moncrieff of Balcaskie. The Moncrieffs owned Balcaskie from 1615 to 1655. A Janet Pitcairne, in the sixteenth century, had married a Moncrieff. She got possession of Pitlour, and left it to her brother Andrew Pitcairne. Sir Alexander Moncrieff redeemed the land shortly afterwards. He died, and the lands reverted again to the Pitcairnes. It is probable that Janet Sydserff, wife of Alexander Pitcairne, may have been a daughter of the Bishop, as both the Moncrieffs, Pitcairnes, and Sydserffs were friends. There is not much known about this Bishop; but in the 'Scottish Guardian' of July 15, 1881, it mentions the Bishop in the Deed of Commission granted by him, in favour of a Commissary in Orkney, authorising arrangements in regard to the revenues of the See. This deed is dated at Edinburgh, June 1663.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

DR ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE.

ARCHIBALD, Alexander Pitcairne's eminent and distinguished son, was born in Edinburgh, on Christmas Day 1652. He was descended from the ancient house of Pitcairne of Pitcairne, and Forthar, Fife, who were remarkable for their loyalty to the House of Stuart.

Archibald was placed at school in Dalkeith, then only a small village, near Edinburgh, where he was given a classical education. He was then sent to the Edinburgh University in 1668, and in 1671 he took his M.A. degree. The intention of his father was, that he should study for the Church. He went through a course of Divinity after having studied Philosophy. Like many men of talent and genius, he was some time before he could make up his mind as to his future profession. Ultimately he decided to go in for law, which he did first in Edinburgh, and afterwards in Paris. His father had been much disappointed that he had given up being a clergyman, but his natural vivacity was against it; so with great reluctance he gave way, and allowed him to study law. Liking this much better, Pitcairne worked very hard indeed, trying to excel in everything he undertook. But the severe strain was too much for his youthful constitution, and it was not long before he was threatened with consumption, so he set out, by the advice of his doctor, for Montpellier, in the south of France. On his way there he stopped in Paris, but here feeling much better, he decided there was no occasion to go farther, and meeting some agreeable



DR. ARCHIBALD PITCAIRN  
1652-1713.

By Sir John Medina.





Scottish friends, he determined to put an end to his travels, and study law in the Paris University.

However, his friends, who were medical students, easily persuaded him to give up the law, telling him there was no good professor there now, and how much better it would be for him if he would join them in going to the Hospitals. He was much interested in them, and their work, and decided to follow their profession. He attended the Hospitals in Paris for some months, when his father wrote to say he wished him to return to Edinburgh.

He did so, and was induced by his intimate friend, Dr David Gregory, to begin the study of mathematics, in which he acquired exceptional proficiency, which suited his genius above anything he had tried before. Meeting with the lately invented method of infinite series, he made some improvements thereon, which were afterwards published by Dr Wallis, with others by Dr David Gregory, Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford. Pitcairne's mathematical studies more or less influenced his medical theories and investigations.<sup>1</sup>

At last, Archibald Pitcairne, deciding definitely to follow the profession of physic, first applied himself to Botany, Pharmacy, and Materia Medica, after which, proceeding, in the usual course of his countrymen at that period, he went to Paris (for the second time), worked there, and got his degree of M.D. from the Faculty at Rheims in August 1680. He returned to Scotland again, where he at once began to practise in Edinburgh, and soon he acquired a great and wide reputation. This was a short time before the Revolution, and he began his career as a physician by publishing his '*Solutio Problematis de Inventoribus*,' in which he showed himself to be well versed in the works of Hippocrates the Father of Physic, also that he understood perfectly the exact meaning of the circulation of the blood, as it was discovered by Dr Harvey, which Dr

<sup>1</sup> *Authorities*—British Encyclopedia; Lee's National Biography; History of Dr Pitcairne and his Life; Family records; all his books consulted; and Connolly's Eminent Men of Fife.

Pitcairne first brought into vogue in private practice in Great Britain. He was one of the original Members of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, which was incorporated in 1681.

When an attempt was made to found a medical school in the University of Edinburgh in 1685, soon after the appointment of Sir Robert Sibbald to give lectures, Pitcairne and Dr Halbert were chosen to lecture also, but it is not known if Dr Pitcairne ever gave any.

Dr Pitcairne's book on the circulation of the blood on Harvey's principles had excited so much attention that a new and enlarged edition of it was published at Leyden in 1693.

This work brought him such a high reputation, not only in Scotland but abroad, that, even before the new edition was published, he was offered the post of Professor of Physic by the Council of the University of Leyden in 1692. He accepted the offer, and delivered his inaugural address, or oration, on April the 26th of that year. The speech was highly applauded, and the ordinary stipend of his professorship was augmented by one-half. The oration was published in Leyden in 1692, and Edinburgh 1713: it was called, "*Oratio, qua ostenditur Medicinam ab omni Philosophandi secta esse liberam.*"

He also published at Leyden, "*De circulatione Sanguinis in Animalibus genitis et non genitis*, 1693."

Pitcairne stayed at Leyden about a year. During this time he gave many lectures, upon the works of Bellini, and printed several dissertations drawn from his lectures. He placed Bellini next to Harvey, upon the Bench of inventors of Physic, and in return Bellini dedicated his '*Opuscula*' to him.

Among his pupils were two at least who afterwards became famous, and rose to great eminence in their profession. They were Dr Mead and Dr Boerhaave. Both of them attributed what skill they possessed to the teaching of Dr Pitcairne. In Dr Mead's *Life*, written when he had become a very famous physician to King George II., it is stated—

He had attended the lectures on the theory and practice of medicine, by the famous Pitcairne. He was highly pleased with his master; received his instructions with implicit deference, and formed his own practice on the rules and principles imbibed from him. He spent three years on these studies, and fond as he was of Pitcairne, probably would have been retained longer, by the advantage of the Professor's improving conversation, had he not been drawn away by a stronger passion.

Dr Pitcairne was seldom very communicative out of College: however, this young student found the art of recommending himself to his good graces and confidence, so that he drew from him several observations, which he afterwards turned to his own use in his writings, but never without acknowledging his kind benefactor.

Dr Mead's greatest ambition was to tread in Dr Pitcairne's steps to the utmost of his ability. His works everywhere show it, and he has made it his business expressly to declare and vindicate it, in the preface of his two first pamphlets, the subjects of which were apparently selected for that purpose.<sup>1</sup>

Dr Mead never forgot what he owed to his old friend and teacher. It is interesting to see that Dr Pitcairne's kindness to his old pupil was returned by him, in after-years, in a most unexpected manner.

Dr Pitcairne was known as a man of very strong Jacobite feelings, and devotion to the Stuart cause. It had often involved him in trouble with the Government. After Dr Pitcairne's death his only surviving son, Andrew, having been out in the rebellion of 1715, was taken prisoner, sent to the Tower, and condemned to death, but was saved by the earnest interposition and entreaties of Dr Mead with Sir Robert Walpole. He pleaded in a very striking way that "if Walpole's health had been bettered by his [Dr Mead's] skill, or if the members of the Royal family were preserved by his care, it was entirely owing to the instruction he had received from Dr Pitcairne." Andrew Pitcairne, who was not yet twenty-one, was therefore pardoned by Walpole, through Dr Mead's exertions. He then went to Holland, and entered the Dutch service, but died soon afterwards.

<sup>1</sup> Connolly's Eminent Men of Fife.

Dr Pitcairne had married early in life Margaret, daughter of Colonel James Hay of Pitfour, by whom he had one son and one daughter. In 1694, on February the 8th, "Anna Pitcairne is served heir to her mother Margaret Hay, spouse of Archibald Pitcairne, Medical Doctor, her mother."<sup>1</sup>

Margaret probably died before her husband was forty, for he was born in 1652, and was engaged to his second wife in 1693, so that his first wife had presumably died in 1691 or 1692.

Before he left Scotland to fill the professor's chair at Leyden, he was engaged to his second wife—Elizabeth, a daughter of Sir Archibald Stevenson, an eminent physician in Edinburgh. He returned to Edinburgh in 1693, with the intention of marrying, and taking his wife back with him to Leyden, to be there as soon as the College opened. He was disappointed, however, in this, as Miss Stevenson's parents did not like her to go so far away from them. This unforeseen difficulty caused Dr Pitcairne much embarrassment, as he was under great obligations to his friends at Leyden. However, love prevailed; and he determined to give up his professorship at Leyden, settle in Edinburgh, and marry the lady of his choice. He did so, and the extensive practice he presently made showed the wisdom of his decision.

Notwithstanding his unremitting attendance to the duties of his profession (for, besides Scotland, he was frequently consulted both in England and Holland), he found time to write some new pamphlets. He was also a great classical scholar, and an elegant writer of Latin verse. He is still called the Latin poet.

Dr Pitcairne's poem to Robert Lindsay, a great friend of his, which was written in 1689, is of much interest, when it is explained by a circumstance in the doctor's life which he often told, and never without being sensibly affected by it.

There is a well-known story of two Platonic philosophers who promised one another that whoever died first should

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlv. fol. 793.



make a visit to his surviving companion. This story being read together by Robert Lindsay and Archibald Pitcairne, when they were very young, they decided to do the same, if possible.

Soon after, young Pitcairne at his father's house—Pitcairne in Fife—dreamt one morning that Lindsay, who was then at Paris, came to him and told him he was not dead, as commonly reported, but still alive, and lived in a place to which he could not as yet carry him.

By the course of the post news came of Lindsay's death, which happened very suddenly the very morning of the dream.

#### AD ROBERTUM LINDESIUM.<sup>1</sup>

LINDESI Stygias jamdudum vecte per undas,  
 Stagnaue Cocyti non adeunda mihi,  
 Excute paulisper Lethæi vincula somni,  
 Ut feriant animum carmina nostra tuum.  
 Te nobis, te redde tuis, promissa daturus,  
 Gaudia; sed proavo sis comitante redux,  
 Namque novos cives mutataque regna videbis,  
 Passaque Teutonicas Sceptra Britannæ manus,  
 Legatosque Deûm populo mandata ferentes;  
 Nam vulgus nunc est maxima cura Deûm  
 Illis non Phœbi notæ, non Palladis artes;  
 Numina sunt Bardis hæc peregrina novis,  
 Nam Deus est quicumque furit, quicumque potentem  
 Vertit in imbelles immeritosque manum.  
 At licet a superûm doceant se Rege venire,  
 Quoque modo facilem fas sit habere Jovem,  
 Sola tamen Ditis mysteria nôsse videntur  
 Et Ditis solas incoluisse domos.  
 Hunc crepat, hoc omnis legio se vindice jactat  
 Aëris hic fluctus oceanique regit;  
 Solus in obscœnas homines transire figuras  
 Cogit, et exutum scit revocare genus:  
 Quæ pater ipse Deûm sibi Naturæque negavit.  
 Ille potest, illis si sit habenda fides.  
 Ergo domi natum propera visurus Avernum,  
 Et Phlegethonta novum, non prohibente Jove.

<sup>1</sup> Selecta Poemata, by Dr Archibald Pitcairne, p. 8.

Hic scelera agnoscas eadem quibus affluit orcus.  
 Tartareos vultus Tartareumque pecus.  
 Hic neque jam Furiae desunt, & Tartara nondum  
 Te, licet hic fueris, deseruisse putes  
 Unus abest scelerum vindex Rhadamanthus; amice,  
 Di faciant reductus sit comes ille tui.

Some verses of Dr Pitcairne's on the death of Lord Dundee (Graham of Claverhouse) were translated by Dryden, and Sir Walter Scott remarks about the poem "that it will hardly be disputed that the original is much superior to the translation, though the last be written by Dryden."

The fine epitaph is as follows:—

IN MORTEM VICECOMITIS TAODUNENSIS.<sup>1</sup>

ULTIME Scotorum, potuit quo sospite solo,  
 Libertas patriæ salva fuisse tuæ:  
 Te moriente, novos accepit Scotia cives,  
 Accepitque novos, te moriente, Deos.  
 Illa tibi superesse negat, tu non potes illi;  
 Ergo Caledoniæ nomen inane vale:  
 Tuque vale gentis priscae fortissime Ductor,  
 Ultime Scotorum, atque ultime Grame, vale.

In Boswell's *Life of Dr Johnson*, vol. iv. p. 54, Boswell states: "Dr Johnson said, 'He did not allow the Latin poetry of Pitcairne so much merit as usually attributed to it;' though he owned that one of his pieces, which he mentioned, but which I am sorry is not mentioned in my notes, 'was very well.'" "It is not improbable" (Boswell goes on to say), "that it was the poem which Prior has so elegantly translated."

Soon after Dr Pitcairne's return to Edinburgh, he became involved in various medical controversies, which were owing as much to political as to scientific antipathies. One of his enemies, Sir Edward Eyzat, who wrote a pamphlet against him, was answered in the same year by one called "Tarrago unmasked; or, An Answer to a late Pamphlet entitled 'Apollo Mathematicus.'" This was written by George Hepburn, M.D., Member of the College at Edin-

<sup>1</sup> *Selecta Poemata*, p. 4.

burgh, and a pupil of Dr Pitcairne's. An addition to the pamphlet was by the pen of Dr Pitcairne, and called, "The Theory of the Internal Diseases of the *Eye*, demonstrated mathematically."

For this effusion Dr Hepburn was suspended from his right to sit and vote as a member of the College of Physicians.

On the 18th of November Pitcairne tendered a protest against the admission of certain Fellows, including Dr Eyzat, as having been irregularly elected; but on the 22nd the Committee to whom the matter had been referred reported that the protestation given in and subscribed by Pitcairne was a calumnious, scandalous, false, and arrogant paper, and he was suspended from voting in the College or sitting in any meeting thereof. Several others who had adhered to the protest of Pitcairne were also suspended.<sup>1</sup> One object of this procedure was said to have been to influence the election of the President for the ensuing year.

Dr Trotter was elected, but Pitcairne and his party withdrew to the house of Sir Archibald Stevenson, and there proceeded to elect Stevenson President. The quarrel led to the publication of a pamphlet entitled "Information for Dr Archibald Pitcairne against the appointed Professor, or a Mathematical demonstration that liars should have good memories, wherein the College of Physicians is vindicated from Calumnies," &c., 1696.

Ultimately, however, an act of oblivion was passed the 4th of June, and confirmed on the 11th and 12th, after which Pitcairne resumed his seat in the College.

On the 2nd August 1699 Pitcairne received the degree of M.D. from the University of Aberdeen, and on the 16th October 1701 he was admitted a Fellow of the College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. In 1695 he published at Edinburgh "Dissertatio de Curatione Februm quæ per evacuationes instituitur"; and in 1696, also at Edinburgh, "Dissertatio de Legibus Historiæ Naturalis."<sup>2</sup> In 1701 he published the whole collection, in one quarto volume, at Rotterdam,

<sup>1</sup> Lee's National Biography.

<sup>2</sup> Connolly's Eminent Men of Fife.

under the title, "*Archibaldi Pitcarnii Dissertationes Medicæ.*" In return for Bellini's compliment, he dedicated them to that Professor. Being printed at a distance from the author, several errors escaped correction. Faults of this kind were easily discerned by his friends, and indeed by all unprejudiced readers; and as he opposed in general all the old-established favourite maxims in the theory of physic, these faults proved (as is not uncommon in such cases) a mere decoy to some of his antagonists, who, turning even these against him, thereby discovered such a degree of weakness as rendered them less worthy of his notice. However, it cannot be denied that he treated others of a better character with such a contempt as was no advantage to his own. Five years before this, 1696, being hindered by a fit of sickness from attending the calls of his profession, he diverted himself with writing remarks upon Sir Robert Sibbald's '*Historiæ Naturalis Scotiæ.*' That physician had published a treatise wherein he ridiculed the new method of applying Geometry to Physic, and in return Pitcairne made a rod for him, which, however, he laid up in his study, and communicated it to his friends alone, having prudence enough not to chastise so eminent an offender openly, and when some copies of it came abroad by accident, he disowned it, so that Sir Robert, believing it not to be his, wrote an answer to it, and dedicated it to him! A few Latin poems Pitcairne published, under the title of '*Selecta Poemata.*' They were mostly epigrams of the lyric kind. He took this way of disclosing his political opinions, where he trod closely in the steps of his ancestors, being, as it is well known, no friend to the Revolution. In 1713 he published another edition of his '*Medical Dissertations,*' in which he added several new ones: before he had put the last touch to them he was taken ill, and his weakness increasing, hindered him from giving them to the public so well finished as he had intended. However, he consented to the publication as they were, and the book came out some months before his death, which happened October the 20th, this same year, in the sixty-first year of his age. After his death



the public received a larger collection of his poems, with the addition of some more by other hands, only to swell the book into a more sizeable volume. Some years after the doctor's death, the lectures which he read at Leyden were published, first at Holland, and afterwards in England, under the title of 'Elementa Medicinæ Physico-Mathematica.' These were printed from a copy compiled out of the notes that had been taken by some of his pupils, together with some rough drafts from his papers, which, as they were never revised by him, he was always very careful to suppress during his lifetime, and has left a mark to prevent any one's being imposed upon by them, and such a one as shows that he long before presaged what would come to pass. In his tract upon the circulation of the blood, where he is relating the accounts given by the authors (especially Drs Wallis and Etmüller) concerning the manner of opium acting on the brain, "I pass over,"<sup>1</sup> says he, "what we have upon this subject under the name of Etmüller, since had that learned person lived longer, his works would have come out correctly finished; for the 'Praxis Etmulleriana,' as it is entitled, it is evident was published merely for the sake of lucre, which I mention for this reason, that no credit may be given to what may at any time happen without my knowledge, to be obtruded upon the world as my dictates to my scholars."

Dr Pitcairne, at the solicitation of his literary and political friends, was in the habit of printing for private circulation the numerous *jeux d'esprit* which he composed from time to time with extraordinary facility. These were generally on single sheets of writing paper, and many of them were distinguished for their brilliancy and elegant Latinity: but from this ephemeral way of distributing them, few of them, it is supposed, have been preserved. Archibald Constable, Esq., the well-known bookseller, and the friend of Sir Walter Scott (who was named after Dr Pitcairne), had formed a very large and valuable collection of these pieces, with numerous manuscripts in prose and verse. These Mr Constable had intended to publish, with

<sup>1</sup> Pitcairne's lecture.

the rest of his miscellaneous poetry, accompanied by a Life of Pitcairne, for which he had amassed extensive materials. A large folio volume of printed and MS. pieces, being part of these collections, appeared in a London catalogue many years ago, and was priced at £10, 10s., but it cannot now be traced into whose possession it has been transferred. A delightful specimen of this eminent physician's poetical powers, being a poem "On the King and Queen of Fairy," in two versions, Latin and English, will be found in Donaldson's Collection, under the assumed name of Walter Denistone. An account of the Life and Writings of Dr Pitcairne, by Charles Webster, M.D., was published at Edinburgh in 1781. Dr Pitcairne was likewise author of "Babell; or, the Assembly. A Poem. MDCXCII." Like the comedy of "The Assembly," this satirical poem was written in ridicule of the proceedings of the General Assembly in the year 1692; but until 1830 it remained in MS., when it was presented to the members of the Maitland Club, under the editorial care of George R. Kinlock, Esq. Mr Kinlock made use of two MSS., one in the possession of Dr Keith of Edinburgh, and the other in the library of Mr Dundas of Arniston, which had formerly belonged to the well-known Scottish collector, Robert Milne of Edinburgh.

Pitcairne was a descendant of the ancient family (as Connolly states in his 'Eminent Men of Fife') of Pitcairne of Pitcairne and Forthar. He was universally considered as the first physician of his time. He is said to have had one of the best private libraries of that day, which after his decease was purchased by the Czar of Russia.

According to his contemporaries, he seems to have carried his great faculties lightly. A strong man all round, with great animal spirits and jovial habits, somewhat contemptuous of those with whom he did not agree, a warm and kindly friend, but holding weapons of sarcasm and wit against his enemies, it is no wonder that though he had many devoted friends, yet there was a clique who did their best to spoil his reputation.

A loudly avowed Jacobite, and devoted adherent to the

Stuarts, looking with much disfavour on the Revolution, a strong Episcopalian, reckless in his jests and sarcasms against Presbyterianism, he was, as was to be expected, evidently regarded with little favour by the strict Edinburgh Calvinists. His religious opinions differed much from the dominant ones in Scotland at the time; but although accustomed to ridicule the narrowness of the Kirk, he would not consent to be classed as an unbeliever, "and frequently" (said Wodrow) "professed his belief in God, and should never deny a Providence, and he even brought an action for libel against a Mr Webster who said he was an Atheist." It was amicably settled before it came into court. Dr Drummond has stated that during his last illness he continued in the greatest tranquillity of mind, and showed just apprehensions of God and religion.

As already stated, he died on 20th October 1713, in the sixty-first year of his age.

He was much beloved by his friends, and is known on very many occasions to have acted with great kindness and generosity to deserving men who needed his help.

Ruddiman, the great Scottish scholar, he rescued from a life of obscurity by his encouragement and assistance, and by no one was his memory more gratefully cherished. He wrote the epitaph on Pitcairne's tomb, beginning—

*"Vale, lux Scotigenum, Princepsque docentum,  
musarum columen deliciæque, vale."*

There are three oil portraits still extant of Dr Pitcairne, all painted by Sir John Medina. One portrait, engraved by Strange, belongs to the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and hangs in their Hall. Another has an interesting history. It belonged to Dr William Pitcairn, President of the Royal College of Physicians, London, a kinsman of Dr Archibald's. He bequeathed it on his death to his nephew, Dr David Pitcairn. Dr David Pitcairn's widow died in 1833, and left in her will the portrait of Dr William Pitcairn, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, the one of Dr David Pitcairn by Hoppner, and the one of Dr Baillie by Sir Thomas Lawrence, to the Royal College of Physicians,

London; the one of Dr Archibald Pitcairne to Sir Ralph Anstruther (his great-grandson); and his little silver cup, with the Greek motto, to Colonel Lloyd Anstruther, brother of Sir Ralph, and grandson of Janet Pitcairn, Lady Kellie, daughter of Dr Archibald. The present Sir Ralph Anstruther had lost sight of his picture, and thought the bequest must have referred to an engraving he had of the Doctor, by Strange. However, he and Lady Anstruther made a thorough search, and were rewarded by finding the missing picture. At the back was written, "Archibaldus Pitcairnis, Johanus Medina pinxit." I was much interested to hear that the picture was found, and it is another proof of the value of naming pictures.

I insert a letter here written by the grandfather of Sir Ralph Anstruther, to the nephew of Dr David Pitcairn, Sir John Campbell (son of Anna Pitcairn and William Campbell), on the bequest by Dr David Pitcairn's widow, of Dr Archibald Pitcairne's picture.

BALKASKIE, LEVEN,  
May 3rd, 1844.

MY DEAR SIR JOHN,—In reply to your letter of the 28th ult., which only reached me yesterday, I beg to say how much gratified I am by the valuable and interesting memorial of my celebrated ancestor, Dr Arch. Pitcairne, which the kindness of your deceased friend and relative prompted her to bequeath to me, and I am sure that my brother will participate fully in my feelings on the subject.

I was not previously aware of Mrs Pitcairn's death. I am sure that you, and, still more, your daughter, must feel deeply the loss of so sincere a friend.

As my brother intends taking up his residence in Scotland, perhaps in the course of your arrangements you will be kind enough to forward the cup along with the picture to Balkaskie by steam from London to Edinburgh, and thence per Anstruther carrier, and if you will at the same time send me a note of any expense to which you may be put on my account, I will remit you the same by Post Office order.

I trust that ere long you and Lady Campbell will repeat your visit to Scotland, and that we shall then have the pleasure of seeing you under our roof. Lady Anstruther joins me in kind compliments to Lady Campbell and your daughter, and I am ever,—Yours very sincerely,

R. A. ANSTRUTHER.



The third portrait of Dr Archibald Pitcairne is in the possession of George Kincaid Pitcairn of Littleborough, Lancashire, the fourth, but eldest surviving son of Robert Pitcairn, W.S., the celebrated author of 'Criminal Trials in Scotland.' (See The Pitcairns of Perthshire.)

## CHAPTER XXX.

## CONTINUATION OF DR PITCAIRNE'S LIFE AND WRITINGS.

I HERE insert two short and interesting accounts of Dr Pitcairne:—

- (1) The preface of the translation of the whole work of Sir Archibald Pitcairne, done from the Latin original by George Sewell, M.D., and J. J. Desaguliers, LL.D., F.R.S., in 1727.
- (2) An account of the life, and writings, of the celebrated Dr Archibald Pitcairne, delivered at the Harveian Oration at Edinburgh the year 1781, by Dr Charles Webster.

I give these almost verbatim, as they help one to form a correct idea of how greatly Dr Pitcairne was valued in his day, and I conclude the notice of his life with quotations from his writings, his sayings, and his poetry.

In the preface of the translation of "The whole works of Dr Archibald Pitcairne," done from the Latin Original by George Sewell, M.D., and J. J. Desaguliers, LL.D. and F.R.S., in 1727, Dr Sewell states that

Dr Pitcairne studied many years abroad, where his great learning, and successful practice, procured him the esteem of all foreigners, and spread his reputation into as many different countries. Among the variety of students, every one carried home a high opinion of Dr Pitcairne's useful knowledge in their science. It were needless to inform the reader what errors he reformed, what new lights he spread over the face of physic, and what admirable hints he gave for its future improvement, such as the genius of a second Pitcairne, or a present Mead, might indeed carry to that desirable pitch, which other learned men have hitherto laboured at in vain. There is no page in these dissertations wherein something of this nature

may not be observed, and the Book itself will be the best evidence of the truth we assert.

His fame had already made way for an honourable entertainment among all persons, of the best sense and quality.

Here he continued his practice with equal applause and success, keeping at the same time in correspondence with most of the great men of the faculty, in all parts of Europe, whom either his writings or conversation at Leyden had made his friends and admirers. Indeed, he was the freest, and most communicative, of his advice of any person, perhaps, that ever made so eminent a figure in his profession, never refusing either to satisfy by letter the curiosity, or inform the mind, of the inquirer.

His friendship with the great Bellini, and Monsieur Hequet, must never be forgotten; and it is evident from their writings that they seemed to be proud of that name, and took all occasions to do justice to the merit of their friend.

This may lead us into some part of his private character, of which there are too many witnesses living to make us say anything but strict truth.

In the business of his profession he was always ready to serve every one to the utmost of his power, and even to contribute to their health at the danger of his own. He was a man of too good sense to be a humourist in Physic, or refuse attendance out of pique, or prejudice, or affectation. He understood the value of life too well, to sacrifice it to caprice and humour.

There is one thing more remarkable of him, that he was not at all concerned about fees, nor frightened from his duty by the sight of poverty in his patient—nay, he went with greater cheerfulness to those from whom he could expect nothing but goodwill, than to persons of the highest condition. Besides, in cases which seemed to require that assistance, he not only gave away his skill and medicines, but extended his generosity for the provision of other conveniences for the sick, and left the marks of his charity, as well as the liberality of his art, behind him. The virtue of charity was really so much his own, in the use of it, that he contrived a most secret and discreet manner of conveying his benevolence, and relieved many who knew not their benefactor.

In short, he was one of the greatest and most useful men in his profession this age has produced, of free and universal genius, a good orator, poet, and philosopher. He was of a pleasant engaging humour; life sat very easy upon him in all its circumstances. He despised many, but hated none. He loved his friends and laughed at his enemies; thus he drew out life to about sixty years: and it was not long before he died, that he gave us that excellent picture of himself in a copy of verses, which are at least equal, both

in their easiness, simplicity, and elegance of thought and skill, to any of Catullus, and far superior to any modern composition of that kind. They have been printed by Mr Prior, who honoured them with an imitation; how near the original, the reader may judge. Here following we quote part:—

“TO HIS FRIENDS.”

STUDIOUS the busy moments to deceive,  
That fleet between the cradle and the grave;  
I credit what the Grecian Dictates say  
And Samian sounds o'er Scotia's Hills convey,  
When mortal man resigns his transient breath  
The Body only I give o'er to Death;  
The parts dissolv'd, and broken frame I mourn,  
What came from earth, I see to earth return;  
The immaterial part, th' Etherial soul,  
Nor can change vanquish nor can Death control;  
Glad I release it from its partner's cares,  
And bid good Angels waft it to the stars.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THE CELEBRATED DR ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE, Delivered at the Harveian Oration at Edinburgh for the year 1781, by CHARLES WEBSTER, M.D., Physician to the Public Dispensary; of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh; of the Royal Society of Medicine, Paris, &c.

To Dr WILLIAM PITCAIRN, F.R.S., President of the Royal College of Physicians, London, &c., this small Tribute to the Memory of a Distinguished Kinsman is most Respectfully Inscribed by the AUTHOR.

“HARVEIAN ORATION.”

GENTLEMEN,—Commemorations in honour of distinguished merit have ever been customary. This laudable practice is founded on sentiments of admiration, or of gratitude inspired by the memory of the dead, and tends to produce the most desirable effects, by exciting the emulation of the living.

With such views the Harveian Society instituted the present meeting, and, as one of its secretaries, the task of this day is assigned to me.

I am very conscious how unequal I am to the office; but I am persuaded at the same time that the subject I have chosen gives me



every advantage, and that I may rely on all those allowances which candour and indulgence can suggest.

My intention is to present you with some account of the late Dr Archibald Pitcairne—a name which will continue to be revered when the efforts of his numerous panegyrists are forgotten.

On the 25th of December 1652 this great man was born in Edinburgh. He was descended from the ancient family of Pitcairne, and in a direct line from that posthumous son whose father, and brothers to the number of seven, fell bravely fighting for their King and country at the battle of Flodden, 1513. In the history, perhaps, of no house in Europe can a more honourable incident be mentioned. Its similarity to that of the Fabii of Rome is striking. To the surviving infant the paternal estate, which had been lost amidst the confusion of the times, was restored with honour. To dwell, however, on this ancestry is foreign from the purpose.

The aid of such extrinsic ornament is unnecessary. The pride of pedigree might be sufficiently flattered with him alone for its root; though, were it requisite, embellishments to any oration might be derived from the Pitcairnes of Pitcairne, and the Sydserffs of Ruchlaw, his mother's family.

On the 13th of August 1680 he received from the faculty of Rheims the degree of Doctor, which, on the 7th of August 1699, was likewise conferred on him by the University of Aberdeen—both being attended with marks of peculiar distinction.

Other medical honours are said to have been conferred on him in France and elsewhere; but nothing affords a more unequivocal testimony to his abilities than that which the Surgeons of Edinburgh gave, in admitting him, freely and unsolicited, a member of their College. His admission is dated 16th October 1701. None had such opportunities of judging of his merit as a practitioner, and on no physician did they ever bestow the same public mark of respect. He felt the honour that was done him, assisted at their Board, and often seemed pleased at the title of surgeon—for he was in reality a very able one.

Soon after his graduation at Rheims he returned to Edinburgh, where, on the 29th of November 1681, the Royal College of Physicians was instituted, and his name among others graced the original patent from the Crown.

In his problem concerning inventors he shows a wonderful knowledge of medical literature, and makes use of it in a manner that does great honour both to his head and his heart. His object is to vindicate Dr Harvey's claim to the discovery of the circulation of the blood. The discovery was at first controverted by envy, and reprobated by ignorance. When at length its truth was fully

established, many invidiously attempted to tear the laurels from the illustrious Englishman, and to plant them on the brows of Hippocrates and others. Had the attempt been directed against himself, the generous soul of Pitcairne could not have exerted more zeal in its defence; and his arguments remained unanswered. Were it necessary, therefore, to justify the choice of Dr Pitcairne for the subject of this day's oration, that alone would be sufficient. But as it seems a fact that the discovery of the circulation was in some measure incomplete without his labours, it is but just that he should share the honour; and since he was so ready on all occasions to pay tribute to the merits of others, we should be inexcusable if in this place, and on this anniversary, we were to be silent in our acknowledgment and veneration of his great gifts. During his residence in Scotland his reputation became so considerable, that in the year 1691 the University of Leyden solicited him to fill the medical chair, at that time vacant. Such an honourable testimony of respect from a foreign nation, and from such a University, cannot perhaps be produced in the Medical Biography of Great Britain.

The lustre of such characters reflects honour on their profession, and on the country which has the good fortune of giving them birth, and serves to give the individuals of that country not only a useful estimation in their own eyes, but in those also of the rest of the world. Dr Pitcairne's well-known political principles excluded him from public honours, and promotion at home; he therefore accepted the invitation from abroad, and on the 26th April 1692 delivered at Leyden his elegant and masterly inaugural oration. In this he clears medicine from the rubbish of the old philosophy; separates it from the influence of the different sects; places it on the broad and only sure foundation of experience; shows how little good, inquiries into the manner of how medicines operate have done to the art; and demonstrates the necessity of a sedulous attention to their effects, and to the various appearances of disease.

Nothing marks a superiority of intellect so much as the courage requisite to stem a torrent of obstinately prevailing and groundless opinions. For this the genius and talents of Pitcairne were admirably adapted, and in his oration he displays them to the utmost.

It was received with the highest commendations; and the Administrators, to testify their sense of such an acquisition to their University, greatly augmented the ordinary appointment of his Chair.

He discharged the duties of his office at Leyden so as to answer the most sanguine expectations. He taught with a perspicuity and eloquence which met with universal applause.

Independently of the encomiums of Boerhaave and Mead, who

were his pupils, the numerous manuscripts, copies of his lectures, and the mutilated specimen of them (*Elementa Medicinæ*) which found its way into the world without his knowledge, show how justly it was bestowed. At the same time, he was not more celebrated as a professor than as a practical physician; and notwithstanding the multiplicity of his business in both these characters, he found leisure to publish several treatises on the circulation, and some other of the most important parts of the animal economy. Thus life, which is short only to the lazy, is lengthened by genius and industry seizing and filling up every moment as it passes.

Dr Boerhaave gives the following character of those and some other of Dr Pitcairne's dissertations, which were collected and published at Rotterdam in 1701: "*Hæc scripta optima sunt et perfecta, sive legas dissertationem de Motu sanguinis per Pulmones, sive alia opuscula sive ultimum tractatum de opio. Methodus studii, ab Hallero edita,*" p. 569.

He soon came into that extensive practice to which his abilities entitled him, and was also appointed titular professor of medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

The uniformity of a professional life is seldom interrupted by incidents worthy of record. Specimens, however, of that brilliant wit with which he delighted his friends, in the hours of his leisure, continue to entertain us (*vide* Pitcairni Poemata); and the effects of that eminent skill which he exerted in the cure of disease still operate to the good of posterity. In attempting to draw his medical character, the state of medicine in his time must be recollected. It would otherwise be unjust to compare what he did with what is now done.

Hannibal was certainly a most illustrious general, though unacquainted with the modern instruments of war.

In a science so slowly progressive as that of medicine Dr Pitcairne did a great deal. Besides the works which he published himself, he enriched those of others by his observations (*Archibaldus Pitcairne dictus est inter physiologos, intra-Mathematicus, ex celebrioribus, Bellini amicus, præceptor Boerhaavii, qui multa ab eo recepit*). By labouring in vain for truth in one road, he saved many the same drudgery, and thereby showed the necessity of another way. He not only exploded many false notions of the Chemists and Galenists, which prevailed in his time, but many of those too of his own sect. In particular, he showed the absurdity of referring all diseases and their cures to an alkali or an acid. (*Pitcairni Dissertationes, Edinb., edit. 1713.*) He refuted the idea of secretion being performed by pores differently shaped, and Bellini's opinion of effervescences in the animal spirits with the blood, and Borelli's, of air entering the blood by respiration. He proved the



continuity of the arteries and veins (*De circulatione sanguinis per vasa minima*), and seems to have been the first who showed that the blood flows from a smaller capacity into a larger, that the aorta, with respect to the arterial system, is the apex of a cone (*De circulatione sanguinis in animalibus genitis et non genitis*). In this, therefore, he may be considered as the latest spring of the discoveries respecting the powers moving the blood. He introduced a simplicity of prescription, unknown in pharmacy before his time (*Elementa Medicinæ, lib. i. cap. ii. et passim*), and such was the state of medicine in this country, that scarcely have the works of any contemporary or preceding author been thought worthy even of preservation. (The first medical publication which distinguished this country, after Dr Pitcairne's, was that of the *Edinburgh Medical Essays*, in the year 1732.) As to the errors of his philosophy, let it be remembered that no theory has as yet stood the test of many years in an enlightened period. His own hung very loosely about him. His method of administering mercury and bark is observed at this day; and with respect to febrile, nervous, glandular and dropsical affections, they seem to be as often the opprobriums of the art now as they were then.

Dr Pitcairne was universally considered as the first physician of his time. No one appears ever to have had so much practice in this country, or so many consultations from abroad; and no one, from all accounts, ever practised with greater sagacity and success. The highest felt themselves honoured by his acquaintance, and the lowest were never denied his assistance and advice.

The emoluments of his profession must have been great; but his charities are known to have been correspondent. The possession of money he postponed to more liberal objects; he collected one of the finest private libraries in the world, which was purchased after his death by Peter the Great of Russia, through the influence of Ruddiman. There is an elegant portrait of him, by Sir John Medina, in the Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh, and another in the possession of Dr Pitcairn of London. He was of the middling size, well made, and his countenance full of character.

About the beginning of October 1713 he became afflicted with his last illness. He bore it with a resignation which, at such a crisis, a good man only can experience. He seemed more anxious about his family than himself. The night before his death, he called his children around his bed, to receive his last benediction: and on the 20th October he died, regretted by science as its ornament, by his country as its boast, and by humanity as its friend.

Of the numberless encomiums bestowed on him while living, and of those with which the press teemed at his death, I beg



leave to read one from the celebrated Dr Mead. It is contained in a letter which he wrote to Mr Walpole, afterwards Earl of Orford, in behalf of Dr Pitcairne's only son, then a prisoner in the Tower, for the part he had taken in the civil war of the year 1715. Dr Mead intercedes thus :—

“SIR,—I know not whether I shall offend in presuming once more to write in behalf of a poor prisoner ; and yet, after I shall have mentioned his name, I flatter myself you will rather commend my zeal than accuse my indiscretion. Sir, he is one Pitcairne, a young fool under age, son to a great father now in Heaven, to whom I owe so much, that I cannot but think I should ill deserve the favours you have honoured me with, could I cease to remember Dr Pitcairne, or neglect to pay this just debt to his memory ; for to him is the merit due if ever I have had the good fortune to deserve well of Mr Walpole as a physician. To him it is that Dr Mead owes the solid foundation of that eminent esteem he now is in ; so that by him, though dead, even the throne and royal family may be said to be defended. But how much that worthy physician has deserved of all mankind, you cannot but hear the learned and ingenious every day proclaim. If, for these reasons, you can pardon this my last request of the kind, and so comply with it as to take pity on an unhappy son of such a father, you will not deny your cordial advice to the distressed mother, at whose desire I have written this, and who, I suppose, may be in waiting while you are pleased to give it a reading.”

(This lady died in the year 1754, and is remembered by her acquaintance with sentiments of the highest respect and esteem.)

It is difficult to say whether this letter does greater honour to Dr Mead's candour or to Dr Pitcairne's worth.

Dr Mead obtained his request. Mr Pitcairne received a pardon and went into the service of the States of Holland, where, on account of his own merit and the memory of his father, he would probably have arrived at great promotion had he not died soon after.

Dr Pitcairne left four daughters, who inherited the virtues of their parents, and for whom, in his elegant verses, he breathes all the feelings and wishes of a father.

In fact, Dr Pitcairne possessed every endowment of the mind, and every sensibility of the heart, in a degree above the ordinary level of our nature.

His apprehension was singularly quick, his understanding vigorous, his imagination lively, his memory tenacious, his knowledge various and deep, his feelings keen, his affections glowing and benevolent.

He was distinguished for his filial, parental, and conjugal attachments; nor was he less remarkable as the constant friend of poverty and distress, the avowed enemy of hypocrisy and vice, the unwearied patron of science and of virtue. Without being a bigot to the complexion of the times, he died a worthy and religious man, leaving an example to the world of indefatigable industry, united with transcendent abilities, and of both so employed as to merit the grateful veneration of posterity.

#### QUOTATIONS FROM DR PITCAIRNE'S LECTURES.

It is unfair to assert anything for truth, either in the theory or practice of physic, which stands in such a degree of uncertainty as no man would willingly have the security of his property to stand. For no one ought to be in less concern for his life than his estate. From whence this consequence arises, that it is not allowable to advance anything into a principle, either in the theory or practice of physic, which the mathematicians and persons who are the least entangled with prejudice call in question; because no man would willingly submit to have his affairs reduced to such a hazard, that there must be a necessity for a disputation, the success of which is doubtful for the recovery of them, for of all things life is the most precious.

#### THE EXCELLENCY OF THE ART OF PHYSIC.

That art which, of all others, promises safety and health to mankind ought not in reason to be involved in the conjectures and dreams of disputants, for no man of common prudence would intrust his life to him whose reasoning seems false to the generality, and probable but to very few.

Any one who fairly considers what has been hitherto advanced will easily allow that nothing ought to be used as a principle in physic which is not as certain as the objects of our senses; for it is but reasonable that the care for the life of man should exceed that for his curiosity.<sup>1</sup>

He indicated with great earnestness, and all the force he was capable of, the merits of the wonderful discovery that Mr Harvey had just made of the circulation of the blood, and Dr Pitcairne devoted one whole dissertation to proving the truth of the theory.

<sup>1</sup> From Dr Pitcairne's writings.

*Some of Dr Pitcairne's sayings and Prescriptions.*

It becomes me, who have but a little time to live, being in my sixty-first year, to behave myself like a man, for Publius Syrus says (and I am also of his opinion) that it is the part of a Christian, or of one that would behave himself as such, "kindly to set a man right who is out of his way," therefore I shall subjoin some remedies, very useful for those who are troubled with epilepsies, palsies, or the gout. In an epilepsy or Palsy, after vomiting and blistering, give the Anti-epileptic Tincture. To the younger patients, give Mercury and Broth, with earth-worms. The Anti-epileptic Tincture is made of wild valerian root, and white dittany, of each six drachms, of Castor, Pigeons' dung, of each half an ounce, six drachms of the clammy bark of oak, half an ounce of cinnamon, as much of Rosemary tops, two ounces of Senna leaves; Jallap and Turpeth, half an ounce of each; make a cold infusion of all in eight pounds of white French wine for ten days. When it is strained, add powder of human skull, and shavings of elks' hoofs, of each two drachms, and four ounces of sugar; mix in four ounces of Oil of Amber and two drachms of spirit of Castor; give two ounces to a patient of about seven years of age, and to an elderly one four.

It is often good in Palsies to give this tincture without purgatives, when the distemper begins to go off. It is also good for the patients to rub and chafe the affected limbs strongly before the fire, and then to dip them in cold water.

## FOR THE ARTHRIDIS, OR GOUT.

Purging medicines will signify little: vomits are of use, and afterwards Mercury, given by little at a time. Apply to the part where the pain is, Mesnes Balsam, commonly called Balsamum Guidonis.

To those parts where the gout is, apply continually linnen clothes, wet with the following Liquor; Hot Spring Water eight pounds, white or yellow arsenic two ounces, six ounces of unslaked lime; set altogether upon a slow fire for 24 hours. If the patient have a pain in his stomach, give him preserved Nux Moschata, powder of the Sarsa Root, and Jesuit's Bark, but oftenest Oil of Cinnamon, and preserved Nux Moschata, and preserved Ginger. It will be good also for the gout, to pour into twelve pounds of white wine or beer, four quarts of hot milk, then having taken away the curd, put a pound of berries of hawthorn into the remaining liquor, and boil all for half an hour.

Let the patient drink a pint of this morning and evening.

## "SCURVY."

Water-drinking is a cure, agreeable with either course (as it is a dissolver of acids and alkalies), and chiefly drinking warm water, whence tea-drinking, and a decoction of guaiacum wood, and the root of sharp-pointed dock in water, are all good.

Vomiting is cured by astringents, and medicines which diminish excretion, among which the most excellent is the water of the perpetual Fountain, at the Town of Dysart in Fife, that noble and chief province of Scotland, where the Pitcairns have their patrimony.

1. The reason why letting blood is proper in Fevers is because the quantity of the Blood being diminished, the secretion of the spirits is also diminished. But because blood-letting in sharp, periodical, or intermitting Fevers, does not immediately help, when administered the common way, there must be given, after the patient has been made to vomit, the peruvian or Jesuit's Bark (called Quina Quina), or what is better, Powder of Flowers of Cammomile, then a dose of steel, or filings of iron, and the patient must ride on horseback pretty often, which will be safer and more effectual.

From what I have said it is plain that there's no such thing as an Art, or Method of Curing; but only the Practice of it as Virgil says, and that Remedies were found out by chance, and not design (except Blood-letting, after the circulation was known), and will still be so.

2. That Physic, therefore, is the Remembrance of those things which use has shown to be an effectual Remedy for such and such Distempers.

For the Nature of the Bodies flowing, or residing among the Veins, is not known, and therefore it is by Observation only, that we know what is proper for each Disease, after we have often experienced it to be successful in that Disease. 3. But it appears to cure by chance, not Design, who does the same things over again, which can't be done by others that try the same way, and therefore that cannot be attributed to Method or Art.

Therefore, as an Example of Cure, or the way of applying Remedies, we must propose the Cure of a Quartan Ague, by giving the Jesuit's Bark,<sup>1</sup> or Cammomile Flowers in the same manner. For in this way of Cure, we neither know the Nature of the Bark or of the Flowers, or of the Blood, or of its Motion, which causes the Fever to be Quartan. We only know by observation, that in this Age, that sort of Fever is always carried off by these Helps.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr Pitcairne was the first doctor in Great Britain who advocated the use of quinine.



For it is most evident, and manifest, that neither Blood-letting, nor Purging, nor any other Excretion through the Pores of the Skin, or other Glands, can carry off Fevers, whether continual or intermitting, with the same success as the said American Bark or Flowers of Cammomile do an intermitting Fever; and therefore he that would expel continual Fevers, with the desired success, must first have experienced a Remedy as good as the Bark is for driving away Fevers; and therefore the praise of this must be reserved to Chance, and Fortune, and not to the Art, Sagacity, or Design of Man.

Therefore I don't doubt but that I have solved this noble Problem—viz., to find a Remedy for a given Disease.

#### THE METHOD OF CURING THE SMALL-POX.

Written in the year 1714.

*For the use of the noble and honourable family of March.*

If a child or any person grow sick, feverish, or has a pain in the back, loss of appetite, drowsiness, short cough, sneezing, watery eyes, or some of these, it is always accompanied with some heat and frequent pulse. In this case Blood is to be taken at the arm, or with Loch-Leeches; and if the Fever ceases not, tho' the Pox appear, let Blood a second or third time. Meantime give the child a spoonful of syrup of white poppies at night, and in the night time also, till sleep or ease comes.

Always at night time, and in the night, give a spoonful or two of the Syrup of White Poppies for a Cordial; that keeps down the Fever, and keeps up the Pox.

If the Pox run together in the Face, the Syrup of White Poppies, oftener than in other cases, also about the eighth day from the appearing of the Pox, or a little before that, give the child to drink of Barley-Water, sweetened with Syrup of White Poppies. This will make the child spit, which saves the child.

The child's drink may be milk and water at other times, or Emulsion, but use the first rather.

Apply nothing to the Face, use no Wine, or Winish Possets.

Let the child's diet be all along a thin Bread-Berry in the morning, a weak broth, and soft Bread for dinner, and Milk and Bread at night, or Sugar-Bisket and Milk; and about the fifth day from the eruption, give the child water gruel sometimes.

*Note.*—If at any time the Small-Pox disappear with a raving, before the fifth, sixth, or eighth day from the eruption, then let the Blood again and apply a large Blistering Plaister between the Shoulders, and give an Emulsion.

*Lastly.*—If the Pox was confluent, or run together on the Face, then after the Person is recovered give a Purgative.

## POEMS FROM 'SELECTA POEMATATA.'

JOANNI DUCI ROXBURGIO, ARCHIBALDUS PITCAIRNIUS, S.D.

Cum me nuper participem fecerit Mercurius, carminis quo Danistonus noster, Georgium Buchananum nemoris Elysii tum novus, hospes, compellavit; rem auribus tuis haud indignam facturum mihi videor, si carmen ipsum ad te transmittam, et animum ordinandæ Reip. natum, ejusque, summa negotia librantem, paulisper alliciam ad hæc levia, et inimicas corpori curas aspernantia, consulamque civis illius salutis, cujus beneficio multi mortales, vitam in otio transigunt nullis periculis adfini. Vale.

Tandem regna mei pereuntia liquit imago.  
 Alloquerer Manes ut, Buchanane, tuos.  
 At comes esse viæ Pitcairnius abnuat; illum  
 Detinet Albini nobilis ordo soli.  
 Ante omnes Kerus; quis enim non dicere Kero  
 Carmen amet, solus carmina Kerus amat.  
 Solus digna facit divino carmine, solus  
 Defendit patriæ Tartara vestra suæ.  
 Ille suis arcet Lethæa fluentia poëtis,  
 Et negat effætæ credere carmen aquæ.  
 Ille epulis Divum vates accumbere jussit  
 Primus, et ætherei nectaris esse potes  
 Jamque bibit nectar pleno Pitcairnius ore,  
 Jam Kerum læti Stotus et ille canunt  
 Anne putes illos, si Kerum linquere vellent  
 Nectare florentes linquere posse cados.

IN JOANNEM D. BELHAVENIUM.

DUM cives servare studes, dum Grampia regna,  
 Dignus Hamiltonâ dum cupis esse domo,  
 Quàm minus indignè Scotis avelleris oris  
 Si quas nunc Scotas dicere fata sinunt!  
 At quoniam fato tollet se gloria Vatum  
 Altior, atque tui fama perennis erit.  
 Non te jam Divum, sed nos raptosque Penates  
 Flebimus, O vates non habiture parem.

Several poems, dedicated to, and written about, John Ker; David Drummond; Sir Walter Scott of Thirlestane; Sir James Drummond of Stobhall; Sir David Dalrymple; Hugh Dalrymple, Judge; Robert, Earl of Winton; Lord

Belhaven; The Earl of Kinnoull; The Duke of Hamilton; Sir William Keith; Walter Dennistone; James, Viscount Stair, and many other notable men of the time. He used to dash these short poems off for the amusement of his friends.

IN D. AND. BALFOUREUM, M.D.

D. Equitem auratum.

*Balfourens Moriens loquitur.*

QUIS magis aut sapere, aut vitæ plus optat habere?  
 Vixi dum licuit vivere, et esse probum:  
 Vixi dum terræ prius haud mihi visa ferebant,  
 Regnaque Neptuni dum nova monstra dabant:  
 Omnia nam vidi quæ tellus educat omnis,  
 Omnia quæ Thetidos divitis unda vehit.  
 Jamque nimis notæ terræque undæque valete;  
 Nunc juvat ignoti scire quid astra premant.

IN MARGARETAM HAIAM,

Conjugem suam.

QUAM citò te nobis, longè gratissima conjunx  
 Eripuit fati deproperata dies!  
 Scilicet hæc ipsos contemnunt fata Poëtas.  
 Parsque mei potuit, me superante, mori,  
 Haud ita: perpetuam spondent tibi carmina vitam  
 Nostra; nec extingui, me, superante, potes.  
 Si potuit virtus, et honestæ gratia mentis  
 Ante diem Stygio præda fuisse duci,  
 At non Haja tamen Pitcarni regna silentum,  
 Adspiciet, versu facta Perenna meo.

Another poem to his *daughter* Margaret; another to his daughter Elizabeth.

DISSERTATIONS OF THE NOTES OF Dr ARCHIBALD PITCAIRN, written in Latin. Author, ROBERT HEPBURN, Scotchman, J.C. Printed in London by Bernard Lintott, March 1715. At Amsterdam.

ARCHIBALDI PITCARNII, Medici celeberrimi, Scoto-Britanni, OPERA OMNIA MEDICA, quibus continentur—

I. Elementa Medicinæ Physico - Mathematica Lib. Duo.  
 Quorum Prior Theoriam, Post, Praxim exhibit.

- II. Oratio, Qua ostenditur Medicinam ab omni Philoso-  
phandi secta esse liberam.
- III. Theoria Morborum Oculi.
- IV. Dissert. de circulatione Sanguinis per Vasa minima.
- V. Dissert. de Causis diversæ Molis, qua fluit Sanguis per  
Pulmonem, natis et non natis.
- VI. Dissert. de Motio, quo Cibi in Ventriculo rediguntur  
ad formam Sanguini reficiendo idoneam.
- VII. Solutio Problematis de Inventoribus.
- VIII. Dissert. de Circulat. Sanguinis in Animal. genitis et non  
genitis.
- IX. Dissert. de curatione Februm quæ per Evacuationes  
instituitur.
- X. Dissert. Brevis de Opera, quam præstant Corpora acida  
vel alcalia, in curatione Morborum.
- XI. Observationes quædam de Fluxu Menstruo.
- XII. De infressu Morbi, qui Venerea Lues vulgo appellatur.
- XIII. De Variolis.
- XIV. De Divisione Morborum.
- XV. De Affectione Scorbutica.
- XVI. Dissert. de Legibus Historiæ Naturalis.
- XVII. Epistola ad Archib. Pitcarne.
- XVIII. Poemata Selecta.

Editio Novissima, cum Indice Locupletissimi.

Lugduni, Batavorum. Apud JOH. ARNOLD. LANGERAK, 1737.

In Greyfriars' Churchyard is the Epitaph on the tomb  
of Dr Archibald Pitcairne:—

*Here Lies*

DOCTOR ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE,  
who died 26th October 1713,  
Aged 61.

ELIZABETH STEVENSON, his Widow,  
died 5th October 1734.

JANET PITCAIRN, COUNTESS OF KELLIE,  
his Daughter,  
died 7th June 1770; and

LADY ANN ERSKINE,  
his last surviving Grandchild,  
one of the best of Women,  
died 18th March 1803.



Ecce Mathematicum, vatem, medicumque, sophumque,  
 Pitcarum Magnum, hæc urnula parva tenet,  
 Ergo, vale, lux Scotigenum, Princepsque Medentum  
 Musarum Columen deliciæque, vale.—

Sodalitas Edinburgena filiorum Æsculapii  
 Anno 1772 instituta

Hoc Monumentum resiliendum curabat.

Prid. Id. Junii 1800.

Præside Alex. Wood, Col. Reg. Chir. Ed. Dec. Env.

Andrea Duncan, M.D. & P. à Secretis.

Dr Pitcairne left a widow to mourn his loss, Elizabeth, his second wife, daughter of Sir Archibald Stevenson. His first wife, Margareta, daughter of Colonel James Hay of Pitfour, had died early; she had one son, who died in infancy, and one daughter, who on February 8th, 1694, was served heir to her mother: "Anna Pitcairne, heiress of Margaretas Hay, spouse of Magistro Archibald Pitcairne, doctor of Medicine."

Pitcairne's second wife was married to him in 1693, or before (Ed. City R.) Their children's baptisms were as follows: Elizabeth, b. April 7th, 1694; Archibald, b. July the 9th, 1695, *d. s. p.*; Andrew, b. March the 7th, 1697; Jannet, b. April the 7th, 1699; Margaret, b. October the 3rd, 1701; Agnes, b. June the 1st, 1705. (Ed. City B. R.)

*Witnesses*: Sir Archibald Stevenson, M.D., 1694, 1695, 1697, 1699.

Alexr., 1701, 1705.

James Douglas of Earnshaw, 1694, 1695.

George Ramsay of Icklington, 1697, 1701.

Alexander Pitcairne of that Ilk, 1697, 1699; elder of that Ilk, 1701.

George Stephenson, son of Sir Archibald S., 1701.

John Buchanan, writer, 1705.

Robert Clark, Apothecary, 1705. (Ed. City B. R.)

By Elizabeth,<sup>1</sup> his second wife, he had two sons and four daughters. His son Andrew was engaged in the Re-

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Stevenson, relict of Archibald Pitcairne of that Ilk, is mentioned in a discharge by George Seton, fifth Earl of Winton. Family of Seton, vol. ii. p. 595.

bellion of 1715, was imprisoned in the Tower, but was released; he then entered the Dutch service, but died soon afterwards. His estates were forfeited. The Commissioner on the forfeited estates, in September 1720, published in the 'Edinburgh Evening Courant' an advertisement of "sales about to take place, including the estates of George, late Earl Marischal; James, late Earl of Linlithgow; Andrew Pitcairne of that Ilk; Hugh Paterson of Bannockburn; and Robert Campbell, *alias* Rob Roy. In the particulars of the respective estates afterwards given, that of Rob Roy, Craig Royston, *alias* Inver-snaid, is set down as of the annual value of £27, 13s. 4d. The total annual value of the properties thus exposed for sale amounted to £6410, 3s. sterling, and the whole were bought for £122,766, 7s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. by Robert Hacket, Esq., on behalf of the York Buildings Company, which soon afterwards advertised the letting of them." The estate of Pitcairn was afterwards bought back by a friend of Dr Archibald Pitcairne for the widow and surviving daughters.

The parish of Leslie, or Fetkell as it used to be called, is a beautiful high tableland, and very healthy. Pitcairne, the old manor-house belonging to Dr Pitcairne, is in this parish. In the 'History of Fife and Kinross,' by Sir Robert Sibbald in 1712, he says, "At the foot of the Lomond Hill is Pitcairne, a good new house with an enclosure belonging to the learned Archibald Pitcairne, M.D., a cadet of the Forthar family."<sup>1</sup>

"Then we find Forthar, an old fabrick, and the seat of a gentleman of the name of Pitcairn, the head of the family, and the representative of Secretary Pitcairn, who lived 1560-1584. This anciently belonged to the Ramsays. Southward of this is Kirk Forthar, the place of an old parsonage now suppressed; it hath since James V.'s reign belonged to the Lindsays, cadets of the Earls of Crawford (who intermarried three or four times with the Pitcairns of Forthar). The Pitcairn and Lindsay arms, with initials,

<sup>1</sup> Sibbald's Description of Eastern Parts of Fife, pp. 363 and 384.

are still to be seen in the ruinous chapel of Kirk Forthar."<sup>1</sup>

In Blaeu's Atlas, published 1654, there is a list of proprietors of seats of the nobility and gentry of Fife. Among them is Pitcairn of Forthar.

In the valuation of estates in Fife, 1695, appears—

Drumms . . . .	£581	3	4
Pitcairne . . . .	491	0	0
Purin . . . .	183	0	0
Pittillock . . . .	477	13	4
Forthar . . . .	1023	0	0
Chapel and Hole Kettle . .	415	10	0
Kirk Forthar . . . .	512	0	0
Balbirny . . . .	922	6	8

*Note.*—This must be the yearly value, as Forthar, for instance, was sold for £13,000 about a hundred years ago.

The old manor-house of Pitcairne has long since disappeared. The estate now belongs to the Earl of Rothes. There is still a farm near called Pitcairn.

Dr Pitcairne left a son and four daughters. The third daughter, Janet, married Alexander, fifth Earl of Kellie. She died the 7th of June, 1775, at Drumsheugh, having had three sons and three daughters.<sup>2</sup>

The Earls of Kellie were descended from the Honourable Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar, fourth son of Sir John, fourth Lord Erskine, and brother of John, Earl of Mar, Regent of Scotland, who was born about the year 1521. On the death of the Regent in 1572, Sir Alexander was intrusted with the custody of King James VI., and the keeping of the Castle of Stirling where his Majesty resided: he executed that important charge with honour and integrity. When the Earl of Mar, son of the Regent, seized on the Castle of Stirling in April 1578, he turned his uncle out of that fortress, and became master of the King's person. Sir Alexander Erskine was afterwards constituted governor of the Castle of Edinburgh; and appointed vice-

<sup>1</sup> Seton's Family of Seton, vol. ii. p. 595.

<sup>2</sup> See Wood's Douglas, vol. ii. p. 19.

chamberlain of Scotland in 1580. Sir James Melville characterises him as "a gallant, well-natured gentleman, loved and honoured by all for his good qualities and great discretion, no way factious or envious, a lover of all honest men, and desired ever to see men of good conversation about the Prince rather than his own friends, if he found them not so meet." Sir Alexander Erskine was succeeded by Sir Thomas Erskine of Gogar, his eldest surviving son, born in 1566, brought up and educated with King James VI. from his childhood, and came thereby to have a great share of the royal favour. The King bestowed on him many marks of his special esteem, and appointed him one of the gentlemen of his bedchamber in 1585. Sir Thomas had the good fortune to be one of the happy instruments in the rescue of the King from the treasonable attempt of the Earl of Gowrie and his brother, Alexander Ruthven, at Perth, on the 5th of August 1600, having with his own hand killed the latter. For this signal service he had the third part of the lordship of Dirleton conferred on him, by charter dated the 15th of November 1600. In that charter he is designed eldest lawful son of the deceased Alexander Erskine, Master of Mar. He accompanied the Duke of Lennox in his embassy to France in July 1601. He was created Viscount of Fenton, being the first raised to that degree of nobility in Scotland, by patent dated the 18th of May 1606, to him, and to the heirs-male of his body, whom failing, to his heirs-male whatsoever. He had charters granted to him of the following lands: of Ryecroft, which formerly belonged to the friars preachers of Stirling, dated June the 27th, 1606. Of a third part of Dirleton, Halyburton, and Lambden, united into the barony of Fenton Barns, dated November the 15th, 1610; of the barony of Kellie, dated July the 13th, 1613; of the lands which belonged to the priory of Restennoth united into the barony of Restennoth, dated the 10th of March 1614; of the lordship of Pittenweem, dated the 6th of July 1615; of the lands of Elbotle, Kingstoun, &c., the 6th of August 1616; and of the barony of Fententour and Dirleton, dated the







THE COUNTESS OF KELLIE.  
BORN 1699.

9th of July 1618. Sir Thomas was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Kellie, to him, and to his heirs-male bearing the name of Erskine, by patent dated the 12th of March 1619. He was invested with the Order of the Garter, and dying in London on the 12th of June 1639, in his seventy-third year, was buried at Pittenweem. He was succeeded as second Earl of Kellie by his grandson, Thomas, in June 1639. Thomas took part with the King against the Covenanters in 1642, and died unmarried on the 3rd of February 1643. Alexander, the third Earl, was served heir to his brother Thomas, above mentioned, on the 18th of April 1643. He was a steady loyalist, and was colonel of foot for the counties of Fife and Kinross in the "engagement" to attempt the rescue of King Charles II. He accompanied his Majesty King Charles II. on his expedition into England; and was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester in 1651, and sent to the Tower of London, from which, it appears, he was allowed to go to the Continent. Passing over Alexander, the fourth Earl, we come to Alexander, the fifth Earl, who married Janet Pitcairne. Like his fathers, he was attached to the race of the Stuarts; and having been concerned in the affair of '45, he was included in the Act of Attainder of 1746. He surrendered himself, however, to the Lord Justice at Edinburgh, on the 11th of July 1746, and was committed prisoner to the Castle of that city. No bill of indictment being preferred against him, he presented a petition to the Court of Justiciary on the 8th of August 1749, praying to be brought to trial within sixty days, or to be set at liberty. The latter alternative was adopted, and he was accordingly liberated on the 11th of October 1749, after a confinement of more than three years, and died at Kellie Castle on the 3rd of April 1756.

Alexander, fifth Earl of Kellie, left three sons and three daughters by his wife Janet Pitcairne. Their sons were—

1, Thomas Alexander, who succeeded his father as sixth Earl of Kellie.

2, Archibald, who succeeded as seventh Earl. And—

3, Andrew, who died *sine prole*.

Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, married, first, in 1760, Walter Macfarlane of that Ilk; and, secondly, Lord Colville of Culross. The family of Colville of Culross is an ancient one, descended from Philip de Colville of Oxenham in Roxburghshire, who lived in the twelfth century. Robert Colville was Steward to Margaret, Queen of James III. His grandson, Sir James Colville of Ochiltree, married Janet, second daughter of Sir Robert Douglas of Loch Leven. He died in 1580, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir James Colville of Easter Wemyss, who had served in the great wars of France under Henry the Great with distinction. He had a charter of Culross, Valleyfield, &c., erected into the temporal barony of Culross on the 20th of June 1589, and was created a peer of Parliament the 20th of January 1609 by the title of Lord Colville of Culross, with remainder to his heirs-male whatsoever. He married Isabel, second daughter of Patrick, Lord Ruthven, by whom he had an only surviving son, Robert. Alexander, eighth baron, distinguished himself as a naval officer, and attained in 1770 the rank of Vice-Admiral of the White. He married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the fifth Earl of Kellie, and Janet Pitcairne his wife, but left no children.

Lady Anne Erskine, the second daughter of the Earl of Kellie, died unmarried. She was an extremely good woman. She was buried in the same tomb with her grandfather, Dr Archibald Pitcairne; her grandmother, Elizabeth Stevenson, his widow, who died the 5th of October 1734; and her mother, Janet Pitcairne, Countess of Kellie. The epitaph on this daughter Anne records that "His last surviving grandchild, one of the best of women, died the 18th of March 1803."

Lady Janet Erskine, the third daughter of the Earl of Kellie and Janet Pitcairne, Countess of Kellie, married Sir Robert Anstruther of Balcaskie, Bart. Janet died in 1770, and their descendant, Sir Ralph Anstruther, is the present owner of Balcaskie. The family of Anstruther is





THE LADY JANET ERSKINE.  
DIED 1770.



so celebrated in Scottish history that I hope I may be excused if I give a short account of some of the distinguished men who have belonged to it.

William de Candela was Lord of Anstruther in 1110.<sup>1</sup> His son William, Lord of Anstruther, was a pious benefactor to the Abbey of Balmerino, and died in the reign of King William the Lion. His son Henry disused the name of de Candela. He is styled Henricus de Anstruther, Dominus de Anstruther, in a charter wherein he confirms his father's pious donations to the Abbey of Balmerino in the reign of Alexander II., A.D. 1221. His son Henry, Lord of Anstruther, was a Crusader, and accompanied St Louis to the East. He assumed for his arms the three nails of the cross, now represented by three piles sable on a silver shield. In his old age, in 1292 and in 1296, he was compelled to swear fealty for his barony of Anstruther to Edward I. For many generations the chiefs of this family were munificent benefactors to religious houses. In the reign of Louis XII. of France two sons of the family held high commands in the Scottish Guards attending the person of that monarch and his successor. In 1513, Andrew, Baron of Anstruther, was with James IV. at Flodden. His grandson of the same name was killed at Pinkie in 1547. Sir James, the thirteenth in descent from William de Candela, was high in favour with King James VI., by whom he was knighted, and in 1585 appointed Hereditary Grand Carver to his Majesty—an office still held by his descendants. Sir William, his son, was gentleman of the bedchamber to James VI., and was made a Knight of the Bath in 1603. His brother, Sir Robert, was a diplomatist of great eminence. He was employed by James I. and Charles I. on many important embassies. In 1628 he was sent as ambassador extraordinary to His Majesty's near connection, the King of Denmark, with whom he was in especial favour as a boon companion no less than a diplomatist. In a protracted revel the Danish King was so much delighted

<sup>1</sup> Conolly's Eminent Men of Fife.

with his company that he actually resigned the Danish crown to him, with which Sir Robert was invested during the remaining days of the feast. The ambassador's son, Sir Philip, was a most zealous and devoted Royalist. He had a high command in the King's army, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester. He was severely fined by Cromwell, and his estates were sequestered until the Restoration. He lived until 1702.

Sir Philip had seven sons; one was a baronet, four were knights: 1, Sir William,<sup>1</sup> who carried on the line of the family; 2, Sir James, whose line is extinct; 3, Sir Robert, of Balcaskie, was the grandfather of the Sir Robert Anstruther of Balcaskie, first baronet, born 21st April 1733, who married Lady Janet Erskine, youngest daughter of Alexander, the fifth Earl of Kellie, and Janet Pitcairne his countess, and died 2nd August 1818, aged eighty-five.

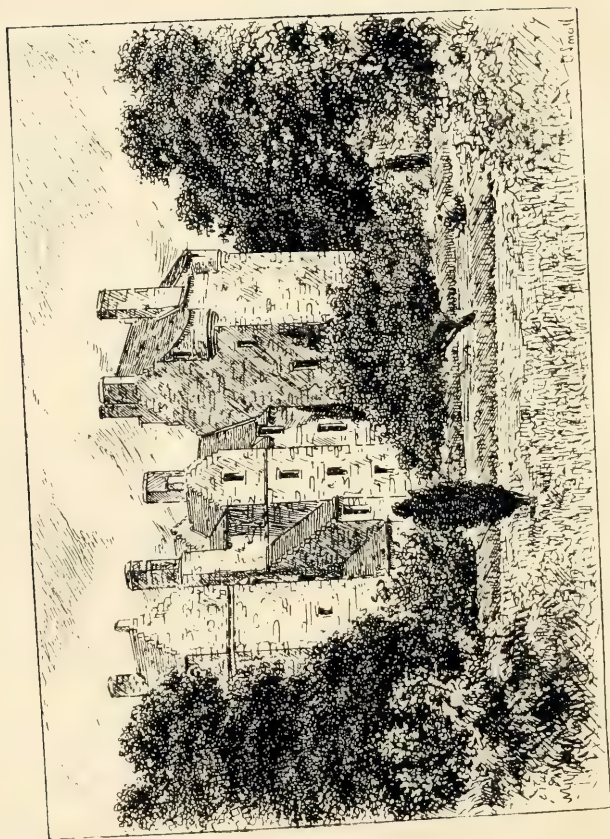
Sir Ralph Abercrombie Anstruther of Balcaskie, Baronet, was born on the 1st March 1804, and died at Balcaskie on the 18th of October 1863, in the sixtieth year of his age. He succeeded his grandfather, Sir Robert Anstruther, as fourth baronet in 1818. He was succeeded in the baronetcy and estates—which consist of Balcaskie in Fife and Watten in Caithness—by Colonel Robert Anstruther, his son, an able officer in the Grenadier Guards, Lord Lieutenant and M.P. for the County of Fife. Sir Robert was succeeded by the present baronet, Sir Ralph Anstruther.

Thomas Alexander, eldest son of Alexander, fifth Earl of Kellie, by his second wife, Janet Pitcairne, daughter of Dr Archibald Pitcairne, was born on the 1st of September 1732, and succeeded his father in 1756 as sixth Earl of Kellie. He was a man of sparkling wit and humour, and had great abilities, which would have made him shine in public life; but he was so devoted to music, and attained such a wonderful degree of proficiency in it, that he could turn his thoughts to nothing else. He went to live at Mannheim, studied composition, and practised the violin

<sup>1</sup> Sir William became a Lord of Session, with the title of Lord Anstruther.







KELLIE CASTLE.

with such serious application that Dr Burney, in his 'History of Music,' says: "On his return to England there was no part of theoretical or practical music in which he was not equally versed with the greatest professors of his time. Indeed, he had a strength of hand on the violin, and a genius for composition, with which few professors are gifted."

Unfortunately this brilliant man had one great failing, and was led away by the intemperate habits of the time. He died at Brussels in 1781, in the fiftieth year of his age, unmarried.

Archibald, second son of Alexander, fifth Earl of Kellie, by his wife Janet Pitcairne, succeeded his brother Thomas as seventh Earl of Kellie. He was a very good and religious man, and, unlike his brother, he was most temperate. He was very high-principled, a devoted adherent of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and had long regretted the restraints which were laid upon her worship. It was chiefly owing to his unwearied exertions that, in 1792, those restraints were removed by an Act of Parliament. This valuable life was not to be a long one: three years after this, in 1795, he became very ill. At that time, however, the disease yielded to treatment, and his friends hoped he might be long spared to them. The former symptoms soon returned, with such aggravation as too surely showed that his sufferings were occasioned by cancer in the throat, which, notwithstanding the skill of his physicians, proved fatal. He died on the 8th of May 1797, after long and painful sufferings. Conolly, in his 'Eminent Men of Fife,' thus sums up his character:—

Inflexible integrity, a high sense of honour, and an unshaken belief in the Christian religion, directed every important transaction of his life; and although in the large circle of his acquaintance there were many who did not regard him with the fondness of friendship, it is perhaps not too much to say that Archibald, Earl of Kellie, had not a single enemy. Without pretending to great erudition himself, he loved learning and learned men, but he abhorred the character of a modern philosopher. Such philos-

ophers as Newton and Boyle, Berkeley and Johnson, he revered as the ornaments of human nature ; but he could not speak without indignation of those who were daily pretending to enlighten the world with their discoveries in politics, in morals, and in religion.

"I have heard," said he, when on his death-bed, "many infidel arguments in conversation, and I have read some books expressly written against the authenticity and inspiration of the sacred Scriptures, but I thank God that the most impartial inquiry which I have been able to make into the truth of religion has confirmed my faith ; for, without that faith, how comfortless should I now be."

It was, indeed, that faith which, under very severe sufferings, so completely supported him, that during the long course of nine months he never uttered a complaint which would have disgraced a primitive Christian. His monarchical principles were very strong, as well as his attachment to the house of Stuart. His private virtues were of the most amiable kind. He was a dutiful son, an affectionate brother, a steady friend, an obliging neighbour, and, to his servants, a kind and indulgent master.

The following interesting and amusing anecdote was sent to me about Lord Kellie and his aunts:—

"The Miss Pitcairns, sisters to Lady Kellie, and aunts of Lady Janet, were such red-hot Jacobites, that when their nephew Archibald, seventh Earl, who held a commission in the army, first appeared at Kellie in his uniform, they took the tongs, and, tearing the cockade from his cocked-hat, threw it into the fire."

Lord Kellie died unmarried, and as his youngest brother Andrew had died without issue, the earldom devolved on his cousin, Sir Charles Erskine of Cambo, who died 1799. The present earl is the Earl of Mar and Kellie.



XVI

ANDREW,  
Page to Duke of York ;  
Chief Falconer  
to the King

CHARLES,  
heir,  
1642.

JANET, = DAVID LINDSAY  
heir, of  
1642. Kirkforthar.

3  
THOMAS ;  
b. 1634.

JANET ; = ALEXANDER,  
b. 1699 ; Vth Earl of  
d. 1770. Kellie ;  
succeeded 1743 ;  
d. 1746.

MARGARET ;  
b. 1701.

AGNES ;  
b. 1705.

THOMAS  
VIth  
b. 13.

Lady JANET ERSKINE = Sir ROBERT ANSTRUTHER,  
3rd Bart. of Balcaskie ;  
b. 1733, d. 1778 ;  
ancestor of the  
present Baronet.



## BRANCH IV.

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### CHAPTER XXXI.

#### THE PITCAIRNS OF DYSART.

THE Rev. James Pitcairne, ancestor of the Dysart Pitcairns, was the fifth son of William Pitcairne of that Ilk, seventeenth laird of the Barony of Forthar, and of his wife Anna, daughter of Sir David Crichtoun of Lugton. James was baptised on the 26th of January 1648, at Kettle, Fife, the witnesses being John Seaton, fiar of Lathrisk, and Mr George Heriot of Ramorny.<sup>1</sup> He, like so many of the younger sons of the country gentlemen of Scotland, became a clergyman. He was first appointed to Burntisland, and in 1691 was transferred to Kettle, where he died in 1712. As his father's family estate, "Forthar," was in the parish of Kettle, this was no doubt the reason why he was appointed minister there.

Mr Pitcairne married, on December 26, 1670, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle, and the marriage is noted in the Session records of that year. In the Register of Baptisms of Edinburgh, August 29, 1671, it states that—

"Mr James Pitcairne, Indweller, and Elizabeth Ruthven, A.S.N., had a son named Alexander, witnesses, John Ram-

<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's family papers.

say of Braidmont, Alexander Pitcairne, Baillie”<sup>1</sup> (the father of the celebrated Dr Archibald Pitcairne, as is evident from his, and his wife’s, Janet Sydserff’s, names appearing in the Register, the 25th of March 1673, on the baptism of a daughter, Janet). Alexander was a cousin of James Pitcairne’s, also descended from the Pitcairns of Forthar, and a great friendship existed between the two families.

Lady Kellie showed the Forthar Pitcairns no little kindness and friendship: her father, Dr Archibald Pitcairne, always stated that the Pitcairns of Forthar were the Chiefs of the house of Pitcairn, and there is a letter of his still extant which proves this.

The following extract of a letter to Principal Lee from Sir John Campbell, a descendant of James Pitcairne, is of interest as showing that Sir John thought he was entitled to the barony of Ruthven through his ancestor Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle, who married James Pitcairne.

Sir John took some trouble to find out if this was the case, but in the end the matter was dropped.

EXTRACT OF LETTER *from* Sir JOHN CAMPBELL  
to Mr PRINCIPAL LEE in 1815.

Sir John Campbell is encouraged by Mr Robert Pitcairn to hope that Mr Principal Lee will not be offended by his applying to him for some information from the stores of knowledge which he possesses respecting the families of the name of Pitcairne, which is that of Sir John’s Maternal Ancestors.

The earliest of these of which Sir John has authentic information is Rev. James Pitcairne, who was cotemporary with the celebrated Dr Archibald Pitcairne, and a near relation.

Dr Archibald’s father, as appears by the Session Records, witnessed the baptism of James’s first son.

James Pitcairne was tutor in one of the families of the Ruthvens. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle. He was at one time minister of Burntisland, and in 1691 was translated from thence to Kettle, where he died in 1712. His marriage took place, and is noted in the Session’s Records, in 1670.

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<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh Registers.



The families of Sir William Ruthven<sup>1</sup> of Dunglass and of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle were both in Edinburgh in 1673, as appears by the Session Records, in which they are found as witnesses to the Baptism of a son of Mr Francis Ruthven, Writer, whose marriage is recorded in 1672.<sup>2</sup> Sir William and Sir Francis appear to have been brothers, and were a branch of the Gowrie line. Elizabeth Ruthven and James Pitcairne were married in 1670, three years before the death of Lord Thomas, Lord David's father.

Sir John Campbell believes that Dr Archibald and his Ancestor James Pitcairne were first cousins.<sup>3</sup>

The tradition in Sir John's family is, that Elizabeth Ruthven, who married James Pitcairn in 1670, was an *elder* daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle, and of Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas, first Baron of Freeland, created, 1651, by Charles II.

His son, David, second Baron, one year after the death of his father in 1674, made a settlement of the property which he inherited from his father, in the entail of which he included a daughter of his sister Elizabeth and Sir Francis, named Isabella, to the exclusion of any others.

But it is proved that there was another *Anna*, by a lawsuit recorded concerning a bond of the Father's, and the tradition is strong that there was Elizabeth besides.

The parishioners at Kettle have stories of the minister's wife, how she complained of having put up with only a Dominie, and treated her husband ill in consequence.

The family of the Johnstons claim the title, as well as the estate, through Isabella from Lord David. To that of the estate there can be no doubt, but that of the title they must claim through Isabella, from Sir William Cunningham, who was the grandson of the first Baron Lord Thomas, by Jean his eldest daughter, and who never took up the title although he lived till 1725, twenty-two years after Lord David's death. By that circumstance it is to be presumed that he considered that he had no claim to the title, as it did not descend to heirs female; and as the Patent is said to have been burnt in 1750, with the family mansion of Freeland, there is no proof now existing of its so descending. If it does so descend, and it can be proved that Elizabeth, who married James Pitcairne, was an *elder* daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven and Elizabeth, daughter of the first lord, *her* descendants are the rep-

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Ruthven's daughter, Mary, married Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie, who was father to Agnes Douglas, wife of David Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar.

<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh Registers.

<sup>3</sup> They *were* cousins. See Branch of Pitcairn of Pitcairn.

representatives who have the right to the title. She died in 1731, her son in 1757; they left descendants, and both outlived Sir William Cunningham, who died in 1725.

Isabella, through whom the Johnstons (by the marriage with her) claim, died in 1732. It is said that she was *summoned* to the Coronation of George II. in 1727, but that is not the fact. That Lord David had his caprice on the subject is proved by his naming his youngest sister Jean first, then his eldest sister Anna, then Isabella his niece, daughter of his second sister, who was then deceased. Redcastle, an estate of the Ruthvens, is in Forfarshire. It appears that William Ruthven in 1664 had lands in Perth, Berwick, and Forfar.

The ancient family of Ruthven are said to descend from Thor, a person of Saxon or Danish blood, who settled in Scotland under David I., and whose descendant, the Hon. Alexander Ruthven of Freeland, co. Perth, younger son of William, second Lord Ruthven, ancestor of the Earls of Gowrie, died 1599, and was succeeded by his eldest son. William Ruthven of Freeland, who married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir William Moncrieff of Moncrieff, and dying (of the plague) in 1608, was succeeded by his son, Sir Thomas Ruthven of Freeland, who was elevated to the Peerage as Lord Ruthven of Freeland in 1651. He married Isabella, daughter of Robert, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, by whom he left a son and three daughters, viz. :—

1. David his heir.

1. Anne—married Sir William Cunningham.

2. Elizabeth, who married Sir Francis Ruthven, Knight, and had issue :—

(1) Isabella, who succeeded by a disposition of David, second Lord, to his estates, and became Baroness Ruthven.

(2) Elizabeth,<sup>1</sup> who married James Pitcairne and had a son David, who married Katherine Hamilton, of Wishaw, and had a son, John, killed at Bunker's Hill, who married Elizabeth Dalrymple, of Dreg-horn, and had by her four sons, who *d. s. p.*, and

<sup>1</sup> Burke's Peerage, 1869.

a daughter, Anne, who married William Campbell, commissioner of the navy, who had three sons, Sir John Campbell, K.C.T.S., General William Campbell, C.B., and the Rev. Augustus Campbell, rector of Liverpool; and two daughters, Elizabeth, married Rev. G. W. Onslow; and Marianna, married Rev. A. Onslow.

(3) Anna, who *d. s. p.*

3. Jean, *d. s. p.*

Lord Ruthven's only son and heir, David, second Baron, a lord of the Treasury, died without issue in 1701, when the barony devolved upon his niece, the Hon. Isabella Ruthven, as first baroness, daughter of the Hon. Elizabeth Ruthven above mentioned, by Sir Francis Ruthven. She married James Johnson, Esq. of Gratney, a colonel in the army, who assumed the name of Ruthven, and, dying in 1730, was succeeded by her son, James, third baron.<sup>1</sup>

*Creation*, 1651. The patent containing the precise specification of the honours of the house of Ruthven was unfortunately consumed with the mansion of Freeland, 15th of March 1750; but it is understood, and so acted upon, that the reversion was to the heirs male and female of the patentee's body.

*Arms*. Paly of six, argent and gules, within a bordure of the last.

*Crest*. A ram's head, couped argent, horned or.

*Supporters*. Dexter, a ram; sinister, a goat, both proper.

*Motto*. Deeds show.

To The Rev. AUGUSTUS CAMPBELL, from The Rev. PETER BARCLAY, relative to JAMES PITCAIRNE, of Kettle.

MANSE OF KETTLE,  
June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1815.

REVD. SIR,—It appears from the tombstone of the ministers of Kettle (for we have the Session Records of that time) that Mr James Pitcairne was admitted minister at Kettle in August 1691,

<sup>1</sup> See Burke's Peerage, 1869.

and died April 1712. He had at least two sons, one who was afterwards minister of Dysart.

The late Dr William Pitcairn, P.R.C.P. in London, and the Major Pitcairn who was killed at Bunker's Hill, in America, were sons of Mr Pitcairn at Dysart, and grandsons of Mr Pitcairne at Kettle. Dr Pitcairn died without issue, and his heirs were the children of Major Pitcairn.

Whether Mr Pitcairne was ordained to any other parish before he came to Kettle, as the word *admitted* on the tombstone should properly imply, I have not been able to learn, nor have we any tradition that I can find respecting his daughters, or other sons, if he had any.

In his time Pitcairns were lairds of Forthar, an estate in this parish, which was afterwards sold to Dr Stewart Threipland. From Dr S. Threipland, somewhere about 1770, Dr William Pitcairn, in London, bought this estate. Whether he was a descendant of that family, and wished to recover the patrimonial estate of his ancestors, I have not been able to find out. But it has again within these few years been sold out of that family, the management of it, at such a distance, not having answered expectation.—Rev'd. Sir, Your most obedient and very humble Servant,

PETER BARCLAY.

LETTER to CANON PITCAIRN from SIR JOHN CAMPBELL, in  
Reference to the PITCAIRN PEDIGREE.<sup>1</sup>

*Copy, General Sir John Campbell's Evidence, 1848.*

I AM descended by my Mother from James Pitcairne, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Ruthven of Redcastle, in Edinburgh, in December of 1670: he was admitted minister of Kettle in Fife, in 1691, where is situated the estate of Forthar, and died in 1712. His son, David, was admitted minister of Dysart in 1708, and died in 1757. He married Katherine, daughter of William Hamilton of Wishaw. Amongst other sons and daughters, who died *s. p.*, he had William and John; the first became President of the College of Physicians, and purchased the estate of Forthar. My mother's father, John, was born in 1722, was a Major in the Marines, and was killed at Bunker's Hill in the American War: he married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Dalrymple of Dreghorn, and had, besides others, Dr David Pitcairn, and Anne, who married William Campbell, whose son I am.

James of Kettle and Dr Archibald Pitcairne were cotemporaries,

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<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's papers.



and in Edinburgh in the youth of their families, and their descendants for succeeding generations, and were ever on the footing of nearest relations.

Lady Kellie showed the family of Dysart great kindness. I am now the senior representative of the descendants of James Pitcairne of Kettle and Elizabeth Ruthven. The property left by Dr David Pitcairn, my mother's eldest brother, which is all now in England, has become partly the possession of my daughter and partly that of my youngest brother,<sup>1</sup> having been left by Dr David to his widow, and by her to them.

*Extract from another LETTER OF GENERAL CAMPBELL, in  
Reference to the Pitcairn Family.*<sup>2</sup>

51 CHARLES STREET, BERKELEY SQUARE,  
9th May 1848.

PITCAIRNE of Forthar was the chief of the name, and was so styled by Doctor Archibald, as is shown by a letter of his still extant. The Forthar estate was sold, in 1770, to Doctor William Pitcairn, President of the College of Physicians in London, and sold again by his nephew David Pitcairn's heirs to General Robert Balfour of Balbirnie. It is situated in the parish of Kettle in Fife. The present representative of Pitcairne of Forthar is Sir James Pitcairn,<sup>3</sup> Knt., M.D., Physician to the Forces at Cork in Ireland, and Inspector General of Hospitals.

LETTER *from* MR REID, Minister of Kettle, in Answer to  
CANON PITCAIRN'S INQUIRIES.

MANSE OF KETTLE, FIFESHIRE,  
24th October 1864.

DEAR SIR,—I have yours of the 20th inst. making inquiry regarding the Rev. James Pitcairne, who was minister of this parish during the latter part of the seventeenth century. It appears that about twenty-one years ago Sir John Campbell called at the Manse of Kettle to make inquiry regarding the same gentleman. I was from home when he called, but he left his card stating that he was a descendant of Mr Pitcairne, and wished to know if there was anything in the Register of the Parish that proved the said Rev. James Pitcairne to have been married<sup>4</sup> to a daughter of Baron Ruthven.

I heard from certain old persons in the parish that the Rev.

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Augustus Campbell.

<sup>2</sup> Canon Pitcairn's papers.

<sup>3</sup> Canon Pitcairn's father.

<sup>4</sup> The marriage took place in Edinburgh in 1670. Register of Marriages.

James Pitcairne *had* married a lady of rank, and that she and the minister did not live happily together. I was told that he had been a tutor in the family of Lord Ruthven, and had married the *elder* daughter.

The story is that she used to cuff the minister, and that he often spent whole nights outside among the broom to be rid of her scolding tongue. She was a woman of a high spirit, and used to say to her reverend but poor husband that she was a great fool to have married a poor dominie or teacher, and refused so many high offers. I wrote this and other stories to Sir John Campbell. His [Mr Pitcairne's] son David, as you say, and as Sir John wrote, was afterwards minister of Dysart.

There were some Pitcairns, proprietors of Forthar, in this parish up till the end of last century, when Dr Pitcairn sold the property to Mr Balfour of Balbirnie.—Yours faithfully, W. REID.

*Note.*—The Rev. James Pitcairne was the fifth son of William Pitcairne of that Ilk and Forthar, and therefore in point of ancient descent, though not of fortune, quite equal to the lady, his wife, who scorned him so much.

LETTER *from* REV. WILLIAM MUIR *to* CANON PITCAIRN, in  
Reference to the Dysart Pitcairns.<sup>1</sup>

MANSE, DYSART, 26th Sept. 1866.

DEAR SIR,—I feel gratified by your notices of the descendants of my predecessor. The following additional particulars may have some interest. The regiment to which the Rev. David Pitcairn of Dysart was attached as chaplain was Colonel Preston's. Though of the most gentle disposition, like his son the Major, he had plenty of courage. I have been told that, the regiment being once in position for action, Colonel Preston, seeing Mr Pitcairn in the line, ordered him to the rear to pray for them.

The Major erected a monument to his father in the old church at Dysart: the church was abandoned, and partly demolished in 1802, exposing the monument to the weather and to the ravages of boys, who soon stripped it of its marble. Part of it was to be seen when I came to the parish about forty years ago. The iron fastenings now alone remain, to which I often directed the attention of visitors.

About thirty years ago I wrote a short memoir of the Rev. David Pitcairn, which appeared in the 'Christian Instructor,' a

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<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's family papers.

religious periodical now popular. I have looked through my library this morning, but do not think I have a copy.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,  
W. MUIR.

Mr James Pitcairne, minister of Kettle, died in 1712. On the tombstone of the ministers there is the following:—

“Mr James Pitcairne, admitted minister at Kettle in August 1691, who died in April 1712.”

In the extract of the Register of Burials at *Dysart*, which began January 5, 1721, there is this entry: “In July 13, 1731, Mrs *Elizabeth Ruthven*, Relict of Mr James Pitcairne, minister of the Gospel at Kettle, buried in the Parson’s Isle.”

No doubt she must have lived with her son David Pitcairn, minister of Dysart, or in his parish, after the death of her husband, and been buried in his church. James Pitcairne left two sons, Alexander and David. David had seen some service in Holland, and returned to Scotland before 1708. That year it states in the Parish Records of Dysart: “Induction of Mr David Pitcairn, minister of the Scots Presbyterian Regiment of Foot, commanded by the Right Honble. Colonel Preston, abroad.”

The said David Pitcairn was admitted, the 8th day of January, by Mr John Wilson, one of the ministers of Kirkcaldy:—

“And the Heritors, Magistrates, Elders, and Masters of Families of the said Borrough and Parish did take him by the hand in token of their owning of, and submitting to him, their lawful Pastor, in place of the Rev. John Anderson, late Pastor there.”<sup>1</sup>

In the same year, on “June the 19th, 1708, the Rev. David Pitcairn, Minister of Dysart, and Mrs Katherine Hamilton, daughter to the Laird of Wishaw, in the Parish of Camsnethen, were contracted in marriage, and there orderly proclaimed.”

Katherine Hamilton, born the 13th of May 1682, was of very good descent, second daughter of William Hamilton of Wishaw, who was direct ancestor of the sixth Lord

<sup>1</sup> Parish Records of Dysart.

Belhaven,<sup>1</sup> who, dying in 1784, in 1799 his son William, by a decision in the House of Lords in his favour, assumed the title of seventh Lord Belhaven. Katherine Hamilton was also connected with the ducal family of Hamilton.

On her mother's side her descent was no less noble, as William Hamilton's second wife, Katherine's mother, was Mary (daughter of Sir Charles Erskine of Alva, and granddaughter of John, seventh Earl of Mar), by whom he had five sons and six daughters.

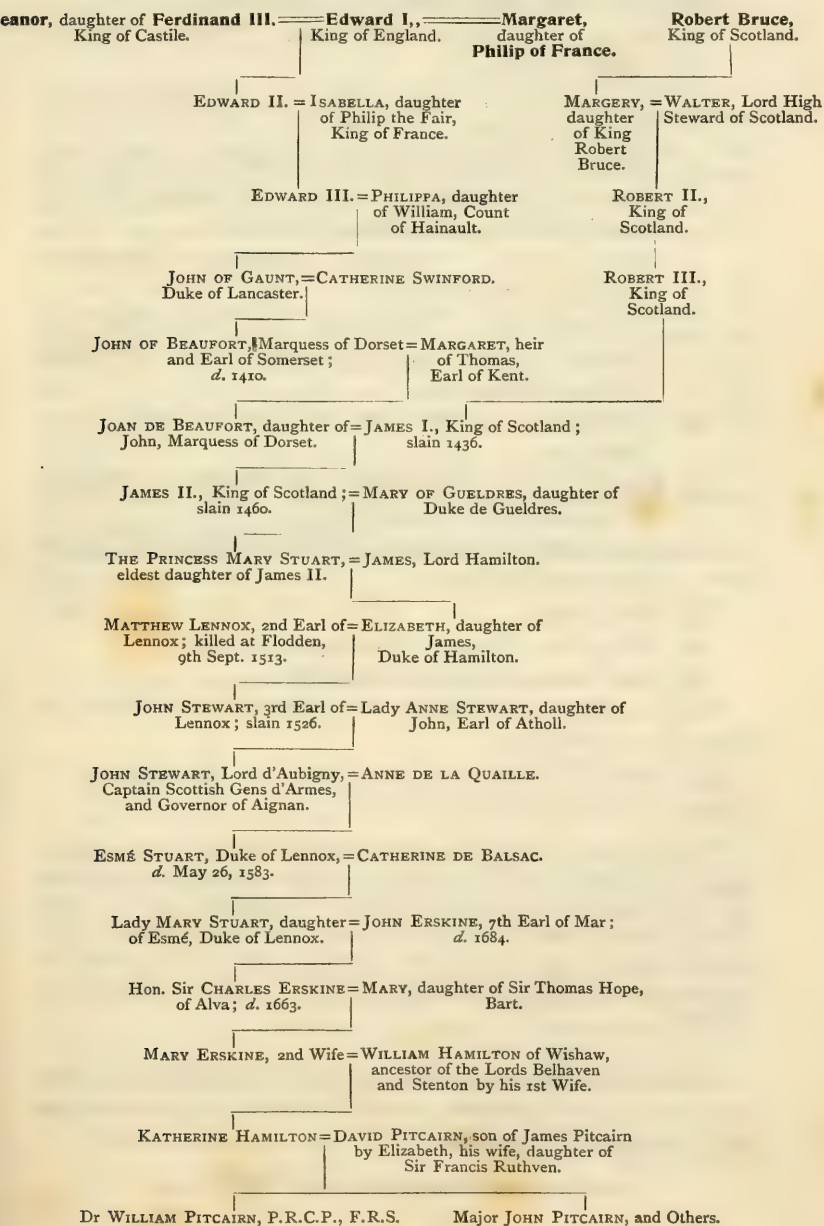
One of Katherine's half brothers was Robert Hamilton, son of William Hamilton, and his first wife Anne, daughter of John Stuart of Udston and of Castlemilk. His grandson, Robert of Wishaw, married Susan Balfour, daughter of Sir Michael Balfour of Dennistoun, and became the father of Lord Belhaven, who was great-great-grandson of Katherine Pitcairn's father; Katherine's brother-german, Charles Hamilton, married Euphemia, sister of Sir James Hamilton of Rosehall. Her niece Helen, daughter of her second brother John Hamilton, married Sir Patrick Keith Murray; her other niece, Joan, married Sir James Dunbar.

Her third brother, the Right Hon. William Gerald Hamilton, was Secretary of State for Ireland, and afterwards Chancellor of the Exchequer for that kingdom. He had a son, William, who was known by the name of Single Speech Hamilton; he died 1796.

<sup>1</sup> Douglas's Baronetage, vol. i. p. 208.



INEAGE OF KATHERINE PITCAIRN, Wife of DAVID PITCAIRN of  
Dysart, on her Mother's side, who was MARY, Daughter of Sir CHARLES  
ERSKINE of Alva, and Wife of WILLIAM HAMILTON of Wishaw.



The Rev. David Pitcairn had eleven children :<sup>1</sup>—

- 1, Henry, born Sept. 12th, 1709. Witness, Henry, Lord St Clare.
- 2, Margaret, born Sept. 24th, 1710. Witness, Henry, Lord St Clare.
- 3, William, born May 9th, 1712, President of the College of Physicians, London. Witnesses, Henry, Lord St Clare, Mr Alex. Bonthron.
- 4, James, 1713. Witnesses, Alexander Bonthron, Henry, Lord St Clare.
- 5, Archibald, 1714. Witnesses, Mr Henry Dall, Mr John Cleghorn, &c., Mr Alex. Bonthron, Archibald Arnot, surgeon.
- 6, Elizabeth, 1715, Mr Alex. Bonthron, Baillie Alex. Swinton.
- 7, David, 1717. Witnesses, Mr Cleghorn, Baillies Thomson and Abercrombie.
- 8, Jean, 1718. Witnesses, Baillies Abercrombie, Thomson, and Mr Dall.
- 9, Mary, 1719.
- 10, John, 1722, Major in the Royal Marines.
- 11, Child born, 1728, died at Moffat.

Their mother is called in the Register Mrs Katherine Hamilton of Wishaw.

Mr David Pitcairn died in 1757. In the Register of Dysart is the following :—

The Rev. Mr Robert Balfour, minister of Ballingrie, by appointment of the Presbytery, preached here last Sabbath, and declared the first post of the ministry vacant, by the death of the Rev. David Pitcairn, who died upon Monday, the 18th of April (1757) last, about 9 of the clock in the morning, aged 83 years and five months, in the ministry 62 years, whereof 49 years 2 months in Dysart.

The following letters, written by his successor, the Rev. Mr Muir, bear testimony to Mr Pitcairn's high character and goodness of heart :—

<sup>1</sup> From the Dysart Registers and Canon Pitcairn's papers.

*Extract of LETTER from Mr WILLIAM MUIR, Minister of Dysart,  
to CANON PITCAIRN.*

MANSE, DYSART,  
22nd September 1864.

THE Rev. D. Pitcairn was one of the most eminent ministers that ever filled the first charge of his parish, which is collegiate. His father was minister of Kettle, in the Presbytery of Cupar. Prior to his settlement here he was an army chaplain, and saw some service on the Continent. His wife was connected with the ducal house of Hamilton.

One of his sons rose to the rank of Major of Marines. He had the unfortunate distinction of firing the first shot in the American war, having the command of the British at the sad affair at Lexington. He fell mortally wounded, leading the successful attack on Bunker's Hill. David Pitcairn, minister, was admitted to the first charge of Dysart, 1708, and died very suddenly 12th April 1757, aged eighty-four.

There was another family of some note of the same name in this parish at that period. Of them I know nothing more than that they had a son, a captain in the army.

Mr D. Pitcairn had a large family. One of his sons became an eminent physician in London. I have conversed with aged people who remember him.—Yours truly,  
WM. MUIR.

LETTER *from* Mr WILLIAM MUIR, Minister of Dysart, *for*  
CANON PITCAIRN of Eccles.

DYSART, 13th October 1864.

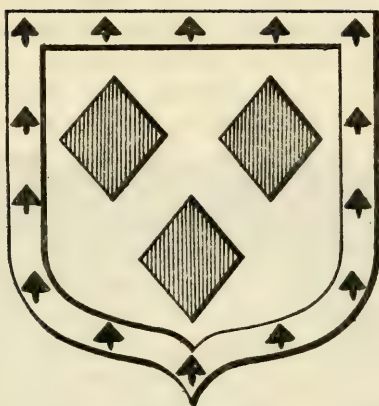
MY DEAR SIR,—I send by this post a copy of 'The Antiquities of Dysart.' Please do not return it, but give it to the Vicar of Eccles: he may be pleased to have a view of the church where the Rev. D. Pitcairn preached so long. The road shown passes over the north aisle of the church, and shows part of the old cemetery. The monument to Mr Pitcairn was fixed on the east gable, which is not shown.

"Forthar," of which you wrote, is in the parish of Kettle, of which the father of Mr Pitcairn was minister. I remember only one story which I may write as illustrative of change. He had got from some friend a present of a few pounds of tea. He asked one of his elders to take a pound of it, saying, "It can never be all used in my house"!

It was an uncommon beverage then.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,  
WM. MUIR.

The two most distinguished of the Rev. David Pitcairn's children were Dr William Pitcairn, President of the College of Physicians, London, and Major John Pitcairn. There is a statement of another brother Robert, whose name is not in the afore-mentioned list, who had apartments given him in Holyrood through the favour of the Duke of Hamilton. He died *sine prole*.





ARMS OF DR WILLIAM PITCAIRN OF DYSART.

*Crest.* A moon in her complement proper.

*Motto.* Plena refulget.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

DR WILLIAM PITCAIRN,

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON,  
FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF  
ANTIQUARIES, AND TRUSTEE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

DR PITCAIRN'S coat of arms was: a shield argent, three lozenges for Pitcairn, within a bordure ermine. These are the same arms as Dr Archibald Pitcairne carried.

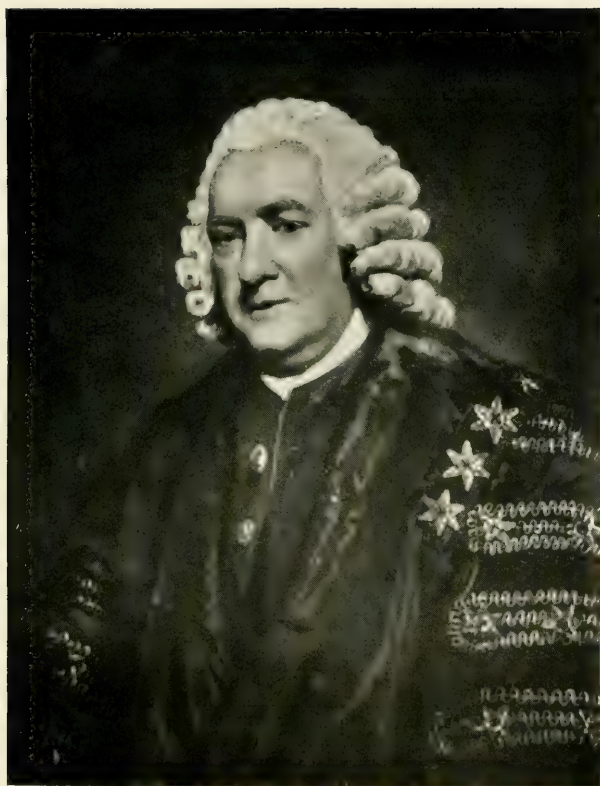
Dr William Pitcairn, the second son of David Pitcairn, minister of Dysart, was born in the year 1712. He studied at the University of Leyden, where he entered on the Physic line, on the 15th October 1734, and attended the lectures of Boerhaave. He took the degree of M.D. at Rheims. Boerhaave was a pupil, with Mead, of that distinguished man Dr Archibald Pitcairne, William Pitcairn's cousin. William's mother Katharine was, as has

been stated, a member of the Hamilton family. She was related to James, sixth Duke of Hamilton : her son William, after he had finished his medical studies, went to stay with the Duke at Oxford, and travelled with him abroad in 1742. "The Duke's wife was the beautiful Miss Gunning, who, in one year after her husband's death, married the Duke of Argyll. From this connection, and from his own personal and professional merits, Dr Pitcairn moved in the highest circles in London."<sup>1</sup>

When the Radcliffe Library was opened at Oxford, with great solemnity, on the 13th of April 1749, the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred, by diploma, on Dr William Pitcairn. Soon after this he began to practise in London. "His brother, Major John Pitcairn, was killed at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, and as there was not in the world a more excellent or benevolent character than William Pitcairn, he adopted his brother's orphan children, and always acted towards them with the affection and solicitude of a parent. He was a man of very agreeable manners, and his society was much sought after. On the 20th of June 1750, William Pitcairn was elected a Fellow of the College of Physicians. In 1752 he was Gulstonian Lecturer, and in 1753, 1755, 1759, and 1762, he was made Censor. He was elected President of the Royal College of Physicians in 1775, and every year until he resigned in 1785, when he retired from practice."<sup>2</sup> "On September 30th, 1785, a Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously in the College—that the thanks of the College be given to Dr William Pitcairn for his unremitting attention to the affairs of the College, and for the great zeal that he showed for its honour and prosperity during the years that he held the office of President." He lived in Warwick Court for a time, near the old College of Physicians in Warwick Lane, in the City of London, and had a very large practice as a physician—in fact, Dr Pitcairn was the leading practitioner in the City. Dr Rad-

<sup>1</sup> Dr Murray's History of Colinton.

<sup>2</sup> From Roll of the Royal College of Physicians, by William Munk.



By Sir Joshua Reynolds, P.R.A.

DR. WILLIAM PITCAIRN, P.R.C.P., F.R.S.





cliffe's celebrated Gold-Headed Cane<sup>1</sup> had been bequeathed by Dr Mead to Dr Anthony Askew, and by him left to Dr William Pitcairn, who in turn, seven years after resigning the Presidentship, died, bequeathing the cane to Dr David Pitcairn, who left it to the College of Physicians, where it is now carefully kept in a glass case, in the Censor's Room.

The Cane, which belonged to Dr Radcliffe in 1689, was a gold-headed one with a crook or cross-bar for a handle, with the arms on it of the different doctors to whom it belonged. A doctor's cane had generally, in the olden days, a rounded knob or head, often of gold, sometimes of silver, but in later times generally of ivory. "In earlier times, this knob was perforated with holes, and it had within a cavity or chamber, for aromatic or Marseilles vinegar—*le vinaigre de quatre voleurs*—of sovereign efficacy against all pestilences. The head of the cane was thus a *vinaigrette*, which the doctor held to his nose when he went into the sick chamber, so that its fumes might protect him from contagion." (Dr Radcliffe's cane had no knob, however, but a cross-bar handle.)

"Physic of old her entry made,  
Beneath th' immense full-bottomed shade,  
While the gilt cane, with solemn pride,  
To each sagacious nose applied,  
Seem'd but a necessary prop  
To bear the weight of wig at top."

On the 22nd of February 1750 Dr William Pitcairn was elected Physician of St Bartholomew's Hospital, and resigned that post on the 3rd of February 1780. On the 4th of March 1784 he was elected Treasurer of St Bartholomew's, and thenceforward lived in the Treasurer's House in the Hospital. He was long on the staff of St Bartholomew's Hospital, where a ward is still called after him. His sagacious use of opium in fevers was very remarkable, and in enteric fever, which was not then recognised, he no doubt saved many lives. He had a country residence with

<sup>1</sup> Munk's Roll of the Royal College of Physicians, vol. ii. p. 174; and "The Gold-Headed Cane," by Dr Macmichael.

a botanical garden of 5 acres in Upper Street, Islington, opposite Cross Street. He was an accomplished botanist,—so much so that Monsieur L'Héritier, the great botanist, gave the name of Pitcairnia to a species of plant in his honour. "Pitcairnia in Botany received the name from M. L'Héritier in honour of the late William Pitcairn, M.D., F.R.S., President of the College of Physicians, and Trustee of the British Museum. One of the most amiable and benevolent of men." *Vide* Rees's Encyclopædia. He was also a member of the Royal Society, and a Trustee of the British Museum.

St Bartholomew's Hospital, where Dr Pitcairn was Treasurer, was founded in the year 1123 by Rahere, who subsequently founded the Priory of St Bartholomew: the Hospital had an independent constitution and a separate estate, but was for some purposes under the control of the Priory. At the granting of Henry VIII.'s charter, St Bartholomew's Hospital contained only 100 beds, but since that time its out- and in-patients have increased enormously. The Hospital is now to be extended, and brought thoroughly up to date in every way. It does a splendid work in the City, and it is a matter of great congratulation that it has been decided not to move it from the old original site, which would have been an immense pity.

In Macmichael's "Gold-Headed Cane" it alludes to Dr Pitcairn's kindness to his nephew, and his help to him in the early part of his career. After mentioning the adoption of his nephews and nieces after their father's death, it goes on to say :—

"Among the many occasions on which I [*i.e.*, the Gold-Headed Cane, which is supposed to tell the story] attended him to the houses of his professional brethren, I remember once particularly, when in company with his nephew, then a very young man (afterwards Dr David Pitcairn), we called upon Dr Richard Warren. We were received with the greatest kindness and alacrity, the Doctor showing my master that respectful attention which, without checking the familiar tone of friendly intercourse, is due and agree-

able to superiors in age. During the lively and entertaining conversation which ensued, Dr Pitcairn, in introducing his nephew, expressed himself in these words:—

“‘Dr Warren, my nephew, whom I present to you, received his education in Glasgow, and then at Cambridge; but afterwards I took him home, and kept him here in London, under my own eye for a short time, endeavouring to give him some of my peculiar views of practice. He is now just returned from Edinburgh, where he has been under the tuition of my countryman Dr Cullen, whose clinical clerk he has been for a twelvemonth. Surely you will think him a youth of promise in his profession when I inform you, that in the case of the son of that great man of Physic, which the father thought desperate, David Pitcairn took a hint from what he had learned in London, and advised a larger dose of laudanum than is usually made use of, which restored the child of his preceptor and friend. My practice of using opium has thus travelled northwards to my own country, and I rejoice that it has reached the door of so amiable a man and excellent practitioner as Dr Cullen.’

“So strong a recommendation was not without its effect, and the expressions of friendship with which Dr Warren received the young student of physic were afterwards amply fulfilled by the real assistance and countenance which he gave him in the commencement of his professional career.”

The old estate of Forthar, which had belonged to the Pitcairns of Pitcairn and Forthar for 400 years, had been bought, in 1756, by Dr Stewart Threipland from the creditors of David Pitcairn of Forthar, who was a Jacobite. Dr Threipland evidently bought it in on behalf of the family. He was a connection of theirs, and a Jacobite himself, and bought it to enable the Pitcairns to buy it back again from him.

The decret of certification and binding the ground at the instance of the said Dr Stewart Threipland, was dated the 26th day of November 1760.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Canon Pitcairn's family papers.

Extract Disposition of the said lands and Barony of Forthar by the said Dr Stewart Threipland in favour of *Dr William Pitcairn*, Physician in London, dated the 2nd of August and recorded in the books of Council and Session (office J.C.) 1st October 1773.

Instrument of resignation of said lands and Barony of Forthar in favour of the said *Dr William Pitcairn*, dated the 6th day of August 1773. Charter of Resignation following thereupon in favour of the said *Dr William Pitcairn* of the said lands and Barony of Forthar, dated the 6th August, and sealed at Edinburgh 15th September 1773.

Instrument of Seasine in the said Lands and Barony of Forthar following upon the Precept of Seasine in said Charter in favour of *Dr William Pitcairn*. Dated the 22nd of September and recorded in the General Register of Seasines at Edinburgh the 6th of October 1775.

These deeds clearly show that Dr William Pitcairn bought back the ancestral estate. He would naturally be interested to do so, as his great-grandfather was William Pitcairne of Pitcairne and Forthar, his grandfather, James Pitcairn of Kettle, being William's fifth son. His cousin, James Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, was the direct heir in lineal descent, but as his estate of Forthar had been confiscated, he was therefore too poor to buy it back, or to get any one to do so for him, but no doubt he was glad to see it in the hands of a Pitcairn. He was on terms of friendly intimacy with his cousin Dr William Pitcairn, and when he was appointed to the livings of Compton Bassett and West Kington, and came over from Ireland to take his LL.B degree in London, he mentioned in one of his letters that he went to see Dr William Pitcairn, and dined with him.

Dr Carlyle of Inveresk, an eminent man of his day in Scotland, and a great friend of Dr William Robertson, Principal of the Edinburgh University and Historiographer for Scotland, wrote his 'Autobiography,' which was published by Messrs W. Blackwood & Sons. They have very kindly allowed me to quote references to Dr W. Pitcairn from the book, which are very interesting, as they are by a man who really knew him well, stayed frequently at his house, and had every opportunity of judging of his



character. I therefore quote the following extracts verbatim. He says:—

“In 1758 Robertson and I went to London,—he to offer his ‘History of Scotland’ for sale.

“He had never been there before, so we went to see the lions together, and had for the most part the same acquaintance.

“Dr William Pitcairn, a very respectable physician in the City, and a great friend of Dr Dickson’s, was a cousin of Dr Robertson’s, whose mother was a Pitcairn; we became very intimate with him. Drs Armstrong and Orme were also of their Society.

“Dr William Pitcairn was a very handsome man, a little turned of fifty, and of a very gentlemanly address. When he settled in London, he was patronised by an Alderman Behn, who being Jacobite, and not doubting that Pitcairn was of the same side, as he had travelled with the Duke of Hamilton, he set him up as a candidate for St Bartholomew’s Hospital. During the canvass the alderman came to the doctor, and asked him, with impatient heat, ‘if it was true that he was the son of a Presbyterian minister in Scotland?’ which Pitcairn not being able to deny, the other conjured him ‘to conceal that circumstance like murder, otherwise it would infallibly blow them up.’ He was elected Physician to that Hospital, and soon rose to great eminence in the City of London.

“Dr Pitcairn was a bachelor, and lived handsomely, but chiefly entertained young Scotch physicians who had no establishment. Of these, Drs Armstrong and Dickson were much with him. As our connections drew Robertson<sup>1</sup> and me frequently to the City, before my sister’s house was ready, we both took up our lodging at his house. We never saw our landlord in the morning, for he went to the Hospital before eight o’clock; but his housekeeper had orders to ask us at breakfast if we intended to dine there, and to tell us when her master

<sup>1</sup> Dr William Robertson.

was expected. The doctor always returned from his round of visits before three, which was his hour for dinner, and quite happy if he found us there. Exactly at five, his chariot came to the door to carry him out on his afternoon visits.

“We sat as long as we liked at table, and drank excellent claret. He returned soon after eight o'clock: if he found his company still together, he was highly pleased. He immediately entered into our humour, ate a bit of cold meat, drank a little wine, and went to bed before ten o'clock. This was an uncommon strain of hospitality, which, I am glad to record, on repeated trials, never was exhausted. He lived on in the same manner till 1782, when he was past eighty; and when I was in London for the last time he was perfectly entire, and made his morning tour on foot. I dined once with him at that period in his own house with a large company of ladies and gentlemen, and at Dr Hamilton's (his cousin's) of St Martin's Church, on both of which occasions he was remarkably gay. He survived for a year or two longer. Dr David Pitcairn, the son of his brother, the Major, who was killed early in the American rebellion, was heir both of his fortune and of his professional merit. . . .

“There was a club in London where Robertson and I never failed to attend, as we were adopted members while we stayed in town. It was held once a-week in the British Coffee-house, at eight in the evening; the members were Scotch physicians from the City and Court end of the town. Of the first set were Pitcairn, Armstrong, Orme, and Dickson; of the second were William Hunter, Clephan, Mr Graham of Pall Mall, &c.—all of them very agreeable men: Clephan especially was one of the most sensible, learned, and judicious men I ever knew,—an admirable classical scholar and a fine historian. He often led the conversation, but it was with an air of modesty and deference to the company, which added to the weight of all he said. Hunter was gay and lively to the last degree, and often came in to us at nine o'clock

fatigued and jaded. He had had no dinner, but supped on a couple of eggs, and drank his glass of claret,—for though we were a punch club, we allowed him a bottle of what he liked best. He repaid us with the brilliancy of his conversation. His toast was, “May no English nobleman venture out of the world without a Scottish physician, as I am sure there are none who venture in.” He was a famous lecturer on anatomy. Robertson and I expressed a wish to be admitted one day. He appointed us a day, and gave us one of the most elegant, clear, and brilliant lectures on the eye any of us had ever heard. . . .

“As soon as my sister got into her house in a court in Aldermansbury, Dr Dickson and she gave a dinner to my friends, with two or three of his. There were Doctors Pitcairn, Armstrong, Smollett, and Orme, together with Dr Robertson, John Blair, Home, and myself. We passed an exceedingly pleasant day, although Smollett had given Armstrong a staggering blow at the beginning of dinner, by asking him some questions about his nose, which was still patched, on account of his having run it through the side-glass of his chariot when somebody came up to speak to him. Armstrong was naturally glumpy, and this, I was afraid, would have silenced him all day, which it might, had not Smollett called him familiarly John, soon after his joke on his nose; but he knew that Smollett loved and respected him, and soon recovered his good-humour, and became brilliant. My sister, who had one lady with her,—one of Pitcairn’s nieces, I believe,—was happy and agreeable, and highly pleasing to her guests, who confessed they had seldom seen such a superior woman.”<sup>1</sup>

The following anecdote is told of Dr Pitcairn by Bishop Low:—

“A grandchild of Sir George M’Kenzie, being seized with a dangerous illness, was attended by the head physician of the day, Dr Eccles. Additional advice being thought necessary, young Dr William Pitcairn was proposed in consul-

<sup>1</sup> Dr Carlyle’s Autobiography, pp. 333-347.

tation, but Dr Eccles expressed a fear lest he might not come, as there was an enmity between them. Dr Pitcairn being, nevertheless, called in, and on his supposed scruple being mentioned, he said: 'Tell them I would come to consult upon the case of a grandchild of Sir George M'Kenzie though it was with the muckle horn'd Deil himsel'.'" <sup>1</sup>

"Bishop Low also told an affecting story of an old lady, a Miss Sarah Pitcairne, a member of his congregation at Pittenweem, who lived there in reduced circumstances, owing to her family being Jacobites, and their estates of Pitcairne and Forthar being forfeited. He was occasionally invited to drink tea with her. Lady Anne Erskine of the Kellie family, hearing of Miss Pitcairne through the Bishop, became interested in the old lady on account of her pedigree, for Lady Anne's mother was a Pitcairne, daughter of the celebrated wit of that name. She accordingly wrote to Dr Pitcairn, who was then in high practice in London, giving him an account of this venerable member of his clan, and soliciting some assistance for her. This excellent man at once acceded to the request, and granted Miss Pitcairne a small annuity. The Bishop went to take a fish dinner with her, and to communicate the joyful tidings. After dinner he produced a bottle of wine, which he said he had brought because he had a particular health to give. He said, 'I have to propose to you, Madam, that we drink a bumper of this generous liquor, to a man who deserves to have his health drunk in the best we have,—I mean Dr Pitcairn of London, your kinsman, who has settled upon you an annuity that will make you comfortable for life.' The poor old lady was overpowered with joy, and could not sleep a wink all that night."

Mr Conolly, the writer of 'The Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Men of Fife,' says: "I knew Miss Pitcairne well, met her regularly at church, and was invited when a boy to drink tea with her once or twice a-week. I was always told to bring my flute with me, that I might play

<sup>1</sup> Extract from Life of Bishop Low, by Conolly.



*Jacobite* tunes to her after tea. She lived to a good old age, and had several sisters, all of whom she survived."

Dr Pitcairn was President of the Royal College of Physicians, a Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, and a great botanist. Although unknown as authors, both Dr Pitcairn and his nephew did much to advance Medical Science. "About the year 1765 Dr William Pitcairn, and subsequently Dr David Pitcairn, were successively physicians in St Bartholomew's Hospital, and delivered lectures, probably occasional ones, there on Medicine. Further additions to the course of instruction were made by Mr Abernethy, who was elected assistant surgeon in 1787, and by whom, with the assistance of Drs William and David Pitcairn, the principal lectures of the present day were established."<sup>1</sup>

Dr William Pitcairn died at Islington on the 23rd November 1791, and was buried in a vault in the Church of St Bartholomew the Less, on the 1st December 1791; and in the same vault are also buried his brother, Major John Pitcairn, and his nephew, Dr David Pitcairn. His portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds is in the Censor's Room of the College of Physicians: it was engraved by John Jones in 1777. Another portrait, engraved by Hedges, is mentioned by Bromley. His garden at Islington was dismantled, and with its contents sold by auction after his death in May 1792. He died unmarried, and left his fortune, pictures, and estate to his nephew, Dr David Pitcairn.

<sup>1</sup> Cunningham's London, p. 36, edit. 1850.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## MAJOR JOHN PITCAIRN.

MAJOR JOHN PITCAIRN, of the Royal Marines, was the son of the Rev. David Pitcairn, minister of Dysart, Fife, and Katherine Hamilton, daughter of William Hamilton of Wishaw.

He was born at Dysart in 1722, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Dalrymple of Arnsfield, Dumfriesshire, and Dreghorn Castle, Mid-Lothian. Mr Dalrymple was of the family of the Waterside Dalrymples. The following letters show the ancestry of Mrs John Pitcairn, and her Dalrymple connections. They were written many years ago to, and from, Sir John Campbell and the Rev. Augustus Campbell, grandchildren of Major John Pitcairn, and were lent to me by Mrs Pitcairn Campbell of Vicar's Cross.

*Extract from a Letter of Sir John Campbell.*

The family of Dalrymple had its name from William Dalrymple who married Agnes Kennedy, heir of the Barony of Stair, 1450, from whom descended Sir James, who was first Professor of Philosophy at Glasgow, then advocate, and in 1658 a Senator of the College of Justice. He was made a Viscount in 1690. His wife was Margaret, daughter of James Ross of Balneil. Their eldest son, Sir John, was Lord Advocate in 1682, made an Earl in 1703, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Dundas of Newliston. Sir W. Dalrymple, eldest son of Sir John of Cousland, eldest son of Sir James of Borthwick, who was second son of James, first Viscount Stair, bears quarterly 1st and 4th or, on a saltier azure and nine lozenges of the field for Dalrymple; 2nd and 3rd, sable, a cross glory cantoned with four escallops argent, for Fletcher of

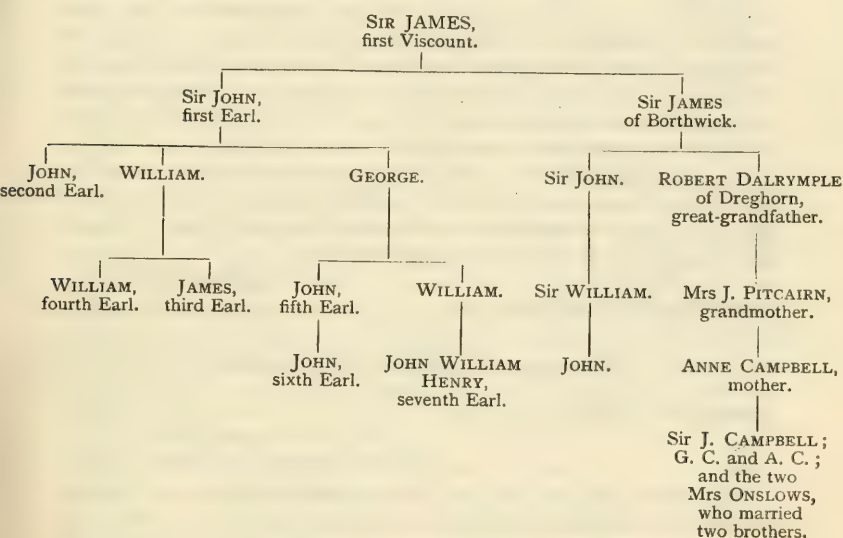


MAJOR JOHN PITCAIRN,  
1760.





New Cranston: Crest, a rock proper. Motto, Firm. Mr Robert Dalrymple, my grandmother Pitcairn's father, Writer to the Signet, younger brother to the above Sir John, carries the same coat, with his brother, with suitable differences, of Thomas Kennedy, son of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Colaine, a near relation of Lord Cassillis. This family is descended from the Sir James Kennedy who married the Lady Mary Stewart, daughter of Robert Bruce the Third.



Mr DUNCAN to The Rev. A. CAMPBELL of Liverpool.

5 UPPER SEYMOUR STREET,  
PORTMAN SQUARE, W., 26th Nov. 1854.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in sending you all the information I have yet got to hand regarding the Dalrymples of Waterside. . . . A few weeks ago I was in Dumfriesshire, and visited the old churchyard of Keir, where lie the remains of the ancient family. Four moss-covered grave-stones beneath several old trees occupy a spot that overlooks the river Nith with an extensive sweep of the valley, bounded by the Queensberry range of mountains. It is a most interesting place, within sight of the mansion house, part of the property of Waterside. I took hastily a jotting of the inscriptions on the stones, and from them, and the inscription on an old mourning ring which has become the property of my sister, I gathered the following: John Dalrymple

born 1562, died 1625 (his descendants must have had Waterside, but the death of more of them is not recorded till the following); John Dalrymple, born 1670, married 1696, Agnes, daughter of John Copland, Provost of Dumfries, and his wife Agnes, *née* Hairstaines, who survived her husband, and died 21st March 1714, aged 84. John Dalrymple died 1733.

They had issue :—

1. Agnes, *b.* 1698, *m.* Rev. Alex. Orr, incumbent of Hoddam, Dumfriesshire. (1) John, who afterwards succeeded to the property; (2) Barbara, *b.* 1740, *m.* Rev. John Craig, incumbent of Ruthwell, Dumfriesshire, and had Agnes (afterwards Mrs Duncan), Robert, and Alexander; (3) a daughter, *m.* Rev. A. Young, minister of Hatton, Dumfriesshire, and had Alexander, who married Miss De Saumarez, and had a large family. Mrs Orr died 1760.

Your great-grandfather, Robert Dalrymple of Dreghorn and Arnsfield, Dumfriesshire, and the second John Dalrymple were probably the sons of the immediately preceding John Dalrymple.—I am, Rev. and dear Sir, Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE DUNCAN.

The Rev. AUG. CAMPBELL, M.A.

Mr DUNCAN to The Rev. AUG. CAMPBELL.

*Extract from Letter.*

5 UPPER SEYMOUR STREET,  
PORTMAN SQUARE, 2nd December 1864.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—There is no doubt, I believe, of the alliance of the Waterside Dalrymples with the family of Lord Stair.

I know that there used to be an acknowledged relationship also with the Duke of Sutherland's family, which led to some friendly correspondence from the then Duchess to relations of mine in Edinburgh, whom she used to visit in passing about forty years ago, and this was probably through the Dalrymples.—I am, Yours most truly,

GEO. DUNCAN.

The Rev. AUGUSTUS CAMPBELL to his Daughter,  
LADY GORDON CUMMING of Altyre.

*Extract of Letter.*

July 6th, 1866.

MY DEAR A.,—Lord Dunfermline lives in the parish of Colinton, in which is Dreghorn, where my great-grandfather Dalrymple lived. He was of the Dalrymples of Waterside in Dumfriesshire.

The late Lord Dunfermline, as you probably know, married an Egerton Leigh.

Dreghorn had belonged to one David Pitcairn, a Scotch Clansman of ours, and he died there in 1709, and there is a grand monument to him in the churchyard at Colinton. One of the daughters married a Robertson, and through her Lord Brougham is *great-great-grandson* of Pitcairn of Dreghorn, and the present Lady Dunfermline is descended from him also. Her mother, Lady Minto, was Mary Brydone, whose mother was a Robertson.—Your aff. father,

A. C.

KEIR MANSE, BY PENPONT, 15th November 1869.

KIND SIR,—The parish records of this parish were some years ago taken to Edinburgh and deposited there in the Register Office, where they may be consulted. They are, however, very imperfect. In the churchyard there are five gravestones recording the death of the members of the family of Dalrymple of Waterside. On some of them are recorded the names of three proprietors of the estate. John Dalrymple, “who died the 25th day of March 1695, his age 63;” “John, who died the 20th day of July 1731, his age 63;” and William, “who died the 21st of March 1760, in the 59th year of his age.” Another has the name of “Agnes Aspland, Spouse to John Dalrymple, died 1729.” Another bears the name of Alexander Bayne of Dry Grange, minister of the parish, who died May 15th, 1776, in the 84th year of his age and 56th of his ministry; another that of Isabel Dalrymple, his wife, who died 4th Dec. 1770, aged 87. From a Bible in possession of the wife of Captain Aitkin, residing in Broughton, Edinburgh, I have learnt that another Miss Dalrymple of Waterside married the Rev. A. Orr, afterwards minister of Hoddam, where the gravestones of himself and his wife now are.—Your very obedient Servant,

WILL. MENZIES.

Major John Pitcairn had by his wife, Elizabeth Dalrymple, five sons: 1, Dr David; 2, Col. Thomas; 3, Robert, who went to sea, and gave the name to Pitcairn Island, having been the first to sight it; 4, Alexander, barrister; 5, William; and four daughters: 1, Anne, married William Campbell, Commissioner of the Navy, younger brother of Admiral John Campbell; 2, Catherine, married to the Hon. Charles Cochrane, son of the eighth Earl of Dundonald; 3, Joanna, married to General Willington; 4, another married to General Butler. All the sons died *sine prole*.

Major Pitcairn died at the battle of Lexington, near Boston, America, at the early age of fifty-three.

He led the assault on Bunker's Hill, fell mortally wounded, and died in a house in Boston that afternoon. He was carried off the field by his son Thomas, who became Colonel, married Charlotte, daughter of Charles Proby, and died abroad.

The account of the battle of Bunker's Hill is from General Sir Thomas Gage's despatches to the Government, also from the 'Gentleman's Monthly Intelligencer,' 1775, stating the English view of the battle, and another account from an American paper from their standpoint. The latter was printed in a little brochure at the Lexington Centenary Exhibition in Boston in 1875.

WHITEHALL, *June 10th, 1775.*<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant Nunn of the Navy arrived this morning at Lord Dartmouth's office, and has brought letters from General Gage, Lord Percy, and Lieut.-Col. Smith, containing the following particulars of what passed on the 19th of April last between a detachment of the King's troops in the province of Massachusetts Bay and several parties of rebel provincials.

General Gage having received intelligence of a large quantity of military stores being collected at Concord, for the avowed purpose of supplying a body of troops to act in opposition to his Majesty's Government, detached, on the 18th of April at night, the Grenadiers of his army and the Light Infantry, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Smith, of the 10th Regiment, and *Major Pitcairn* of the Marines, with orders to destroy the said stores; and the next morning eight companies of the 4th, the same number of the 23rd and 49th, and some marines, marched, under the command of Lord Percy, to support the other detachment.

Lieut.-Col. Smith finding, after he had advanced some miles on his march, that the country had been alarmed by the firing of guns and ringing of bells, despatched six companies of Light Infantry, in order to secure two bridges on different roads beyond Concord, who, upon their arrival at Lexington, found a body of the country people drawn up under arms on a green close to the road; and upon the King's troops marching up to them in order to inquire the reason of their being so assembled, they went off in great confusion, and several guns were fired upon the King's troops from behind a stone wall, and also from the meeting-house and other houses, by which one man was wounded, and Major Pitcairn's horse shot in two places. In consequence of this attack by the rebels, the troops

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<sup>1</sup> The Gentleman's Monthly Intelligencer, vol. xlv., year 1775.



returned the fire and killed several of them ; after which the detachment marched on to Concord without anything further happening, where they effected the purpose for which they were sent, having knocked off the parts of three pieces of iron ordnance, burnt some new gun-carriages and a great number of carriage-wheels, and thrown into the river a considerable quantity of flour, gunpowder, musket-balls, and other articles. Whilst this service was performing, great numbers of the rebels assembled in many parts, and a considerable body of them attacked the Light Infantry posted at one of the bridges, on which an action ensued, and some few were killed and wounded. On the return of the troops from Concord, they were very much annoyed, and had several men killed and wounded by the rebels firing from behind walls, ditches, trees, and other ambushes ; but the brigade under the command of Lord Percy having joined them at Lexington, with two pieces of cannon, the rebels were for a while dispersed ; but as soon as the troops resumed their march, they began again to fire upon them from behind stone walls and houses, and kept up in that manner a scattering fire during the whole of their march of 15 miles, by which means several were killed and wounded ; and such was the cruelty and barbarity of the rebels, that they scalped and cut off the ears of some of the wounded men who fell into their hands.

It is not known what number of the rebels were killed and wounded ; but it is supposed that their loss was very considerable. Too much praise cannot be given to Lord Percy for his remarkable activity during the whole of the day, and Lieut.-Col. Smith and Major Pitcairn did everything that men could do, as did all the officers in general ; and the men behaved with their usual intrepidity.

(Sgd.)      THOMAS GAGE.

#### AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

WHITEHALL, *July 18th, 1775*. Lieutenant-General Gage, in his letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated June the 12th, 1775, states that "the town of Boston continued to be surrounded by a large body of rebel Provincials, and that all communication with the country was cut off ; that the rebels had been burning houses, and carrying sheep off an island that has easy communication with the main land, which drew on a skirmish with some Marines, who drove the rebels away ; but an armed schooner that had been sent between the island and the main land, having got on shore at high water, there was no possibility of saving her ; for as the tide fell she was left quite dry, and burned by the rebels. Two men were killed and a few wounded."

WHITEHALL, *July 25th*, 1775. This morning arrived Captain Chadds, of his Majesty's ship *Cerberus*, with the following letter from the Hon. Lieutenant-General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State :—

COPY of a LETTER *from* The Hon. Lieutenant-General GAGE  
to The EARL OF DARTMOUTH, dated—

BOSTON, *June 25th*, 1775.

MY LORD,—I am to acquaint your lordship of my action that happened on the 17th inst. between his Majesty's troops and a large body of the rebel forces.

An alarm was given at break of day on the 17th instant by a firing from the *Lively*, ship of war; and advice was soon after received that the rebels had broke ground, and were raising battery on the heights of the peninsula of Charles-Town against the town of Boston. They were plainly seen at work, and in a few hours a battery of six guns played upon their works.

Preparations were instantly made for landing a body of men to drive them off; and ten companies of the Grenadiers, ten of Light Infantry, with the 5th, 38th, 43rd, and 52nd battalions, with a proportion of Field Artillery, under the command of Major-General Howe and Brigadier-General Pigot, were embarked with great expedition, and landed on the Peninsula without opposition, under the protection of some ships of war, armed vessels and boats, by whose fire the rebels were kept within their works.

The troops formed as soon as landed; the Light Infantry posted on the right and the Grenadiers on the left. The 5th and 38th battalions drew up in the rear of those corps, and the 43rd and 52nd battalions made a third line.

The rebels upon the heights were perceived to be in great force, and strongly posted. A redoubt, thrown up on the 16th at night, with other works full of men, defended with cannon, and a large body posted in the houses in Charles-Town, covered their right flank; and their centre and left were covered by a breastwork, part of it cannon-proof, which reached from the left of the redoubt to the Mystick or Medway River. This appearance of the rebels' strength, and the large column seen pouring in to their assistance, occasioned an application for the troops to be reinforced with some companies of Light Infantry and Grenadiers, the 47th Battalion and the 1st battalion of Marines; the whole, when in conjunction, making a body of something above 2000 men.

These troops advanced, formed in two lines, and the attack began by a sharp cannonade from our field-pieces and howitzers, the lines advancing slowly, and frequently halting to give time for the Artillery

to fire. The Light Infantry was directed to force the left point of the breastwork to take the rebel line in flank, and the Grenadiers to attack in front, supported by the 5th and 52nd Battalions. These orders were executed with perseverance under a heavy fire from the vast number of the rebels; and, notwithstanding various impediments, before the troops could reach the works, and though the left, under Brigadier-General Pigot, was engaged also with the rebels at Charles-Town, which at a critical moment was set on fire, the Brigadier pursued and carried the redoubt. The rebels were then forced from their strongholds, and pursued till they were driven clear off the Peninsula, leaving five pieces of cannon behind them.

The loss the rebels sustained must have been considerable, from the great numbers they carried off during the time of action, and buried in holes since discovered, exclusive of what they suffered by the shipping and boats; near 100 were buried the day after; and 30 found wounded in the field, 3 of which are since dead. I enclose your lordship a return of the killed and wounded of his Majesty's troops. This action has shown the superiority of the King's troops, who under every disadvantage attacked and defeated above three times their own number, strongly posted and covered by breastworks.

The conduct of Major-General Howe was conspicuous on this occasion, and his example spirited the troops, in which Major-General Clinton assisted, who followed the reinforcement, and, in justice to Brigadier-General Pigot, I am to add that the success of the day must in great measure be attributed to his firmness and gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel Nesbit, Abercrombie, and Clarke; Major Butler, Williams, and Bruce Spendlove, Smelt, Mitchell, *Pitcairn*, and Short exerted themselves remarkably; and the valour of the British Officers and soldiers in general was at no time more conspicuous than in this action.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Sgd.) THOS. GAGE.

Following is the list of killed and wounded of his Majesty's troops on the Heights of Charles-Town, June 17th, 1775 :—

- 10th Foot, Lieut. Kelly, wounded.
- 22nd, Lieut.-Col. Abercrombie, wounded, and since dead.
- 23rd Foot, Lieut. Cochrane, wounded.
- 25th Foot, Lieut. Campbell, wounded.
- 43rd, Lieut. Dalrymple, wounded.
- 52nd, Lieut. Crawford, wounded.
- 1st Battalion Marines, *Major Pitcairn*, wounded, since dead.

AN AMERICAN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF  
LEXINGTON.

During the spring of 1775 the Colonists of Massachusetts, anticipating a possible rupture with the Royal Government, had collected a few military stores at convenient points in the Interior. Several of the leading Americans had also shown an extraordinary independence in asserting their rights and creating a public sentiment, which was opposed to the policy of the Government.

Hearing of this, General Gage, the Governor, eager to maintain the authority of the Crown, formed a plan to destroy the stores at Concord, and get possession of the persons of John Hancock and Samuel Adams, who were known to be in the vicinity. Accordingly a secret expedition was organised, consisting of a detachment of 800 Grenadiers, Light Infantry, and Marines, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Francis Smith of the 10th British Regiment, and *Major John Pitcairn*.

That night, the 18th of April, about 10 o'clock, the fated expedition embarked from the foot of Boston Common, in the boats belonging to the vessels of war at anchor in Charles River.

The troops had landed at East Cambridge, and proceeded across the marshes till they came to old Charlestown Lane, now Milk Street. The rest of the march was by a well-travelled road along North Avenue. It was not long before Colonel Smith found to his dismay that the news of his secret expedition had got wind, and had travelled before him. Although he had maintained profound silence, suppressing the ordinary drum beat, and even all conversation amongst his men, he now perceived the secret was out.

Shadowy forms were hovering upon his flank; horsemen were galloping ahead; alarm-bells and signal-guns rent the midnight air with their ominous sound.

It was evident the country was thoroughly aroused. Accordingly, after a brief halt, the Colonel concluded to send forward six companies of Light Infantry and Marines under *Major Pitcairn*, while he despatched an express to Boston for reinforcements.

*Pitcairn's* troops had not gone far up the road, when they met the officers coming back in great haste with the news that hundreds of men had assembled on Lexington Green, to oppose their march. As the British approached the village, they saw unmistakable signs



of resistance, and heard the drum beat to arms. Supposing this to be a challenge, their Commander ordered them to halt, load, and prime, after which they doubled their ranks and marched on rapidly with a shout, up to the meeting-house, where a portion of their number left the road, and filed off in platoons upon the Common.

The Provincials were astonished to see such an imposing force arrayed against them. There were, in fact, six or eight hundred altogether; but, to the inexperienced eye of the Militia, it seemed as if there were twelve or fifteen hundred. *Major Pitcairn* rode forward at the left of his line; and, drawing a pistol from his holster, he commanded the Americans, with threats, to lay down their arms and disperse. Capt. Parker, fearing lest, in the excitement of the moment, some of his men might discharge their guns too hastily, cried out, "Don't fire unless you are fired on; but if they want a war, let it begin here." At the same time he threatened to shoot any one who should attempt to leave his post. *Pitcairn*, finding that his orders were not obeyed, and hearing, as he supposed, the report of a gun near the opposite wall, commanded his men without further delay to fire. Seeing them hesitate a moment, he brandished his sword, and discharged his own pistol; whereupon the first Platoon fired, but without any apparent result. The order was instantly repeated, and a second volley was discharged all along the line with deadly effect. The gallant little company was broken. Several of the men fell dead and wounded. Cries of distress rent the air. There was no question now as to their right to resist, and they immediately returned the fire. The engagement lasted less than half an hour. Only two of the British soldiers were wounded.

*Pitcairn's* horse was struck in two places. The officers occupied a conspicuous position for a marksman, but the smoke enveloped them to such a degree that it was almost impossible during the action for the militia to see the line, and, after the summary slaughter of so many of their own number, they saw the utter hopelessness of the contest, and wisely withdrew to seek shelter behind houses and stone walls.

The battle was fought on Wednesday, April 19th. On Sunday, the 23rd, between the Church services, New York heard of it, and the people immediately arose, disarmed the soldiers, seized the fort and magazines, unloaded two transports bound to Boston, and forbade all pilots to bring any more King's ships into port. On Monday the 24th, at five P.M., a courier reached Philadelphia with despatches from Lexington. The British found the people of Concord ready to receive them. From an early hour the militia

had been pouring in from Acton, Lincoln, Bedford, and other towns. Messengers had arrived with exciting news from Lexington. The regulars entered Concord in two divisions. Col. Smith and *Major Pitcairn* remained in the town, with the larger number of the troops, while they sent a detachment of about 200 men, under Captain Parsons, to hold the North Bridge. Orders had been given by Gen. Gage very early that morning for three regiments of infantry, and two divisions of marines, with two field-pieces, to be ready to march at four o'clock for the relief of the expedition.

The brigade was under the command of Earl Percy, an accomplished young nobleman of the illustrious family of Northumberland. They went out over Boston Neck, through Roxburg and Brookline, and crossed Charles River on the old bridge near the Colleges. The baggage waggons fell behind, and were captured near West Cambridge. Percy had nearly reached the village of Lexington, when about 2 o'clock he met the returning troops, who had been terribly harassed all the way from Concord. Many defenceless persons were grossly insulted, and a feeble old man was killed. After a short rest, Lord Percy abandoned his position and ordered a retreat.

The famous Essex Regiment, under Col. Pickering, did not arrive in time to check the return of the British, and about sunset Lord Percy reached Charlestown, and crossed the river under the cover of the guns of the ships of war.

The Americans lost that day in killed, wounded, and missing 93. The British 273. The day was ended, but the sword did not return to its sheath. Throughout the Revolutionary War the anniversary of the memorable day was "statedly observed" in Lexington by the "Militia in arms" and a solemn assembly of the whole congregation in the house of God.

#### THE DEATH OF MAJOR PITCAIRN IN A PRINCE STREET HOUSE.<sup>1</sup>

When Major Pitcairn was mortally wounded at Bunker's Hill, he was brought over in a boat and taken to a house not far from a ferry, at the foot of Prince Street. As soon as General Gage heard of it, he sent to Dr Thomas Kast, a well-known Boston physician, who sympathised with England in the struggle, and requested him to call on Pitcairn, as the regular surgeons were overwhelmed with work. The doctor proceeded at once in his gig,

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<sup>1</sup> From History of Old Boston, by Porter.

taking with him a friend whom he met on the way. It was now late in the afternoon. Entering the chamber, where the Major was lying upon a bed, the Doctor announced that he had come at the request of General Gage, who wished to have everything done that was possible to help the Major in his distress. Pitcairn, with his usual courtesy, asked the doctor to thank the General for remembering him at such a time, and added that he feared that he was beyond all human aid. On being asked where he was wounded, he laid his hand upon his breast and said, "There, sir." The doctor proceeded to remove the sheet in order to examine the wound, but the Major objected, and said: "Excuse me, it is useless. My time is short; you cannot do anything for my relief; my wound must cause death immediately; I am bleeding fast internally."

"But let me see the wound," said the doctor; "you may be mistaken in regard to it," and again he attempted to raise the sheet. The Major kept his hand on it, and said: "Doctor, excuse me, I know you can do nothing for me; do not argue the matter with me. . . . Let me say a few words to you about my private concerns." The doctor yielded for a moment, and listened to such messages as the dying man had to give. This seemed to relieve his mind, and soon after he allowed the doctor to open his vest, when suddenly the blood spurted out with great force upon the floor, and he died in a very short time. The stains remained a long time, and the room was called "Pitcairn's Chamber" for many years. After doing what he could for the sufferer, Dr Kast returned to the General and reported the case, but, before he could reach Prince Street again, the brave officer had died of his wounds.

It would be an interesting fact, could we know what house it was in which this scene occurred. There is a tradition handed down by the late Timothy Dodd and others, that it was the house which is still standing at No. 130 Prince Street. It is a brick house originally of three storeys on the left-hand side, going down opposite the yard of the gas works. It belonged for many years in the last century to Benjamin Stokes, miller, who bought the land in 1728 of John Waldo, also a miller. It is described in the deed of transfer of that date as a "dwelling house with all the land whereon the same doth stand, and is thereunto adjoining in the North end of Boston, on the north-west side of the Widow Copps' housing, and land, near Charlestown Ferry place."

It has been called the Stoddard House, because it was supposed by some to have been the house of Thomas Stoddard, the boat-

builder who assisted Pitcairn's son in carrying the Major to his own house on Prince Street. Stoddard did not own this house, though he may have lived here at the time.

“When Pitcairn fell his son advanced in view,  
Towards the spot with anxious ardour flew,  
Though rage and love his steps accelerate,  
To guard his father's steps he came too late ;  
Already death had launched his fatal dart,  
And lodged the barb in the bold veteran's heart.  
Burning for vengeance, and oppressed with grief,  
With filial care he raised the wounded chief,  
From blood and dust (as decency required),  
And from the carnage of the field retired.  
So, stained with streams of warm paternal gore,  
Young Scipio from the field his father bore.”

It must be said that other houses have claimed the distinction of having sheltered the dying Pitcairn, but none of them are now standing. There was one on the other side of the street, spoken of as “the third house from Charlestown bridge” as late as 1851. Another was the Phips' Mansion, afterwards known as the Asylum for Boys, on the corner of Salem and Charter Street. In favour of this was a tradition, apparently very circumstantial, in the Walter and Macleary families, but it contradicted the statements made by Dr Kast, Mr Ewing Samuel Lawrence, and other men of 1775, who had the best opportunity of knowing, and who gave the honour to Prince Street, where Fotheringham has left it, and where it must in all probability remain. It is quite likely, however, that the Phips' house and many others received wounded officers that day, some of whom were, naturally enough, supposed to be the distinguished Major of Marines.<sup>1</sup>

Under the church are buried many families of the early time. Thirty-three tombs, arranged in rows, occupy all the available space. In the one marked 20 was deposited the body of Major Pitcairn until its removal to England.

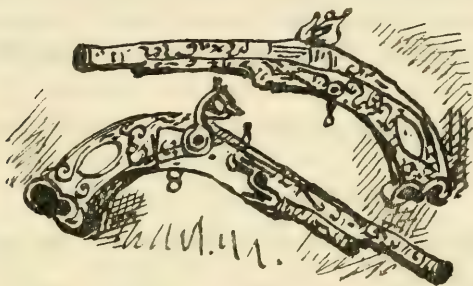
Major Pitcairn's body was taken to London, and buried in a vault in the Church of St Bartholomew the Less, where his son, Dr David Pitcairn, and his brother, Dr William Pitcairn, are also interred.

<sup>1</sup> Extract from an American Magazine.



Major Pitcairn's pistols were captured on Fiske Hill with his horse in the afternoon.

The accompanying sketch represents the brace of pistols used by Major Pitcairn on Lexington Common.



These pistols have a full and authenticated history. During the retreat in the latter part of the day, Pitcairn's horse was shot under him, and he barely escaped with his life, leaving his equipage in the hands of the pursuing Americans. These pistols were then taken, and presented to General Israel Putnam, who used them throughout the war.

At his death they were placed on the drapery of his coffin, as he was borne to the grave. They became an heirloom in the Putnam family, and in 1827 were brought to Lexington, and shown to three members of Capt. Parker's Company, one of whom, Col. Munroe, recognised them from their peculiar construction and ornament, and said he saw Major Pitcairn discharge one of them, before any other shot was fired.

It is, therefore, the first weapon used in formal action in the Revolutionary war; an additional certificate accompanies the pistols signed by Colonel Aaron Burr, Aide-de-Camp to General Putnam. They were loaned for Exhibition at the Lexington Centennial by the widow of John P. Putnam of Cambridge, N.Y. The Exhibition was held in 1875.

Mrs Pitcairn Campbell has in her possession the buttons off Major Pitcairn's coat which he was wearing in the battle, and the bullet which caused his death.

A picture was painted about fifty years ago by Mr Sandham, the American artist, of the battle of Lexington, and he has chosen the moment when Major Pitcairn was waving on his men. The following is a description of the picture:—

DESCRIPTION OF THE PICTURE OF THE BATTLE  
OF LEXINGTON.

*Artist, Mr HENRY SANDHAM.*

The artist has an established reputation, and has spared neither pains nor expense in making himself familiar with all the facts necessary for so great an undertaking. He has studied our Common and its surroundings at sunrise in the middle of April; he has made careful measurements and sketches; he has kept before him the law of perspective; he has had well-selected models for every figure in the painting; he has visited England and examined the uniforms worn by the Royal troops in 1775—thus doing more than was ever before attempted to secure historical and topographical accuracy as the groundwork of his design.

Mr Sandham has chosen the moment when Pitcairn, exasperated by the refusal of the patriots to throw down their arms and disperse, turns in his saddle and commands the troops to fire. The farmer in the foreground, with arm upraised, represents the determined attitude of the Colonies at that time. The aged man holding his gun with both hands is a type of the sturdy fathers of New England. The young man in his death-throe is raising his arms as if making an appeal to Heaven. The sympathy and horror of others as they see their neighbours shot down by their side; the unyielding courage of those who in defence of their rights are returning the fire; and the individuality of the militiamen, as compared with the line of disciplined troops—are intensely significant of the character and meaning of the event. The cool morning light breaking upon the meeting-house; the waning candle in the tavern window; and the smoke of the volley creeping along the ground—are features of artistic merit which add a peculiar charm to the composition.

Major John Pitcairn left five sons and four daughters. Of Dr David Pitcairn, his eldest son, we will speak later on. His second son, Colonel Thomas Pitcairn, was with

his father on that fatal day, and carried him from the battlefield. He married Charlotte, daughter of Charles Proby, and died abroad. Charlotte's uncle, Sir John Proby, became Baron Carysfort, and his son John was made Earl of Carysfort: his third son, Levison, succeeded as third earl.

Robert Pitcairn,<sup>1</sup> the third son, was born at Edinburgh in 1747. He became a midshipman. On the 15th July 1766 he was ordered on board the *Swallow* as a midshipman for a voyage of discovery under Captain Philip Carteret. According to the *Swallow's* pay-book he was then nineteen. On Thursday, the 2nd of July 1767, the *Swallow* sighted an island in the Pacific—according to their reckoning, in latitude 20° 2' S. and longitude 133° 21' W. "It is so high," wrote Captain Carteret, "that we saw it at a distance of more than fifteen leagues; and it having been discovered by a young gentleman, son to a Major Pitcairn of the Marines, we called it 'Pitcairn Island.'" The *Swallow* paid off in May 1769, and Pitcairn appears to have joined the *Aurora*, which sailed from England the 30th of September.

After touching at the Cape of Good Hope, she was never heard of again, and it was supposed that she went down in a cyclone near Mauritius, in January or February 1770. Pitcairn's name does not appear in her pay-book, but Captain Carteret, in a subsequently published journal of the voyage of the *Swallow*, states that Robert Pitcairn was lost in her. Pitcairn Island has been very generally, and no doubt correctly, identified with the same island that the mutineers of the *Bounty* went to in 1789, and where their descendants were found in 1808, 1814, and 1902. There is a good description of the island in Dr Pritchard's book called 'Pitcairn's Island.' A curious circumstance has come to my knowledge whilst writing this book, in a letter from a gentleman in America, who was writing in the middle of the nineteenth century to a friend in England. What he says would seem to indicate that

<sup>1</sup> Lee's National Biography, Family Papers, &c.

Robert Pitcairn was *not* lost in the *Aurora*, but that he, like his father, fought in the American war, and was killed in the battle of Braddock. The writer mentions the tombs of Col. Halkett and Robert Pitcairn being side by side. It appears to me possible that this Robert Pitcairn he mentions was the naval son of Major John Pitcairn, who may have joined the Marines.

The following is the extract of the letter :—

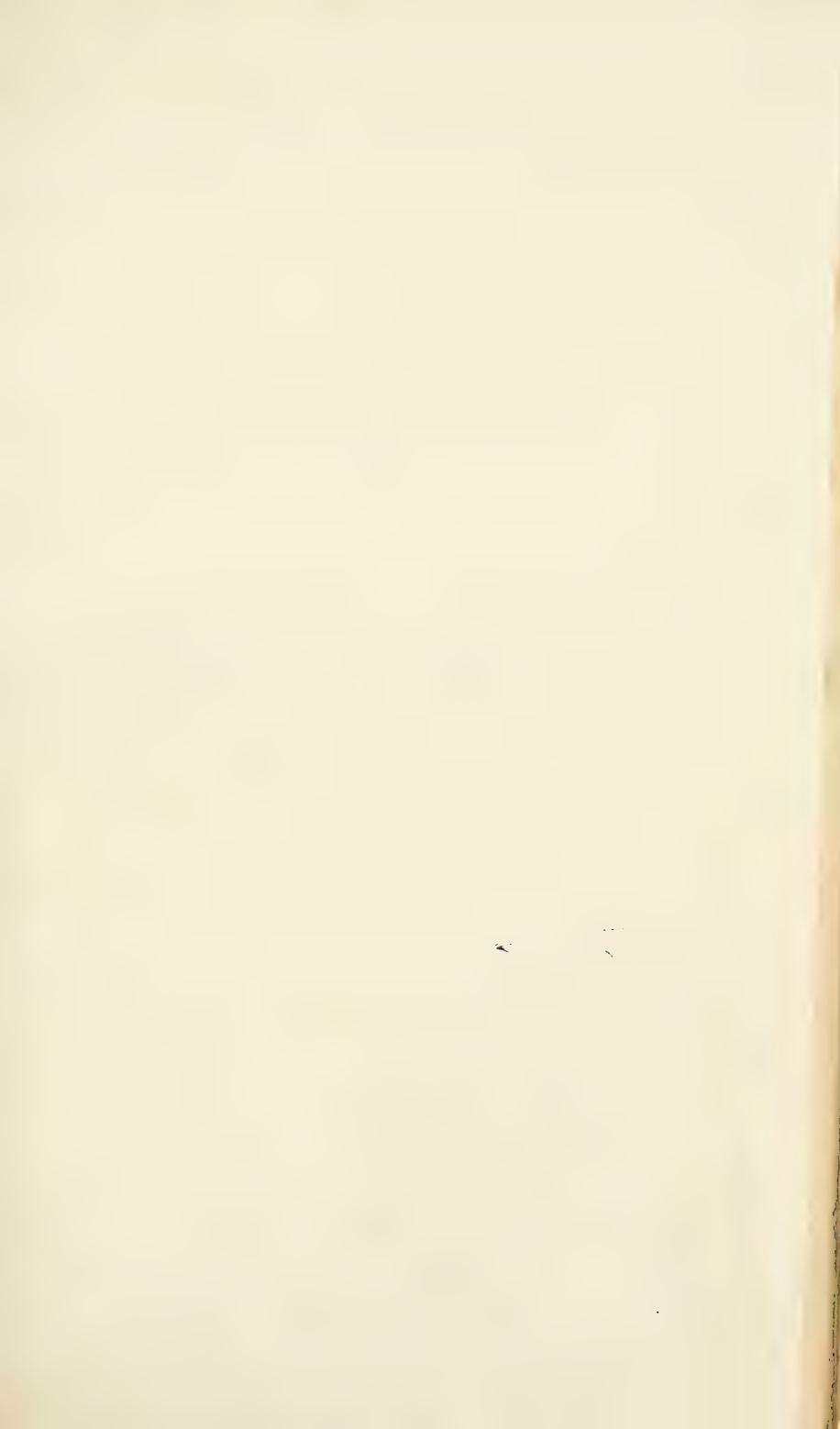
I am much interested in your note about Major Pitcairn. When I was in America I visited a small town called Braddock, in Pennsylvania near Pittsburg, where the battle of Braddock was fought: the name seems to have arisen from that of the officer in command of the British troops there engaged. It was on the banks of the Monongapela River, and a certain Col. Halkett was killed there whose estate, Pitfirrane, is in the parish of Dunfermline. He was a Dunfermline man, and his tomb occupies the next way to that of Robert Pitcairn. The battle of Braddock is mentioned in the Halkett Monument.

Alexander, Major Pitcairn's fourth son, was a barrister, practised at the Inns of Court in London, and was married. All Major Pitcairn's sons died childless. Of his daughters, Anne Pitcairn married William Campbell, Commissioner of the Navy, a younger brother of Admiral John Campbell. They had three sons—Sir John Campbell, General William Campbell, and the Rev. Augustus Campbell. Sir John married a Portuguese lady, Donna Maria Brigidia, of the Lacerda family. They had an only daughter Elise, married to Edward Calvert, Esq., and had two sons—Felix and Walter Calvert of Furneaux Pelham Hall, Buntingford. Sir John distinguished himself in the Peninsular war, and afterwards joined the standard of Don Miguel. General William Campbell also served in the Peninsular war, and had (it is said) five horses killed under him at Waterloo.

The Rev. Augustus Campbell married Elizabeth Aspinall, and had three sons :—

1. Rev. Edward Augustus Pitcairn Campbell, J.P., who married Harriet Humble, and left one son. It is this Mrs Pitcairn Campbell who has given me much valuable help,







MRS. WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

by the loan of papers and letters which have thrown light on this, the Dysart branch of the Pitcairn family.

2. James Pitcairn Campbell, married Ellen Eyre, of Eyre Court, County Galway. Their son, Brigadier-General William Pitcairn Campbell, is a distinguished officer. He is best known to fame as the man who helped so materially to get General Penn Symon's force to Ladysmith from Dundee, after the action of Glencoe at the opening of the Boer war.

3. Major William Pitcairn Campbell, died of fever at Scutari.

Their grandmother, Mrs William Campbell, had also two daughters—1, Elizabeth, who married Rev. J. N. Onslow of Dunsborough, Ripley, Surrey, and had Major Pitcairn Onslow, whose eldest son was Colonel G. Onslow, and two daughters, Marion and Francis; 2, Marion Campbell, Elizabeth's sister, married the Rev. Arthur Onslow, Rector of Merrow, and had nine children.

Catherine, Major John Pitcairn's second daughter, married the Hon. Charles Cochrane, son of the eighth Earl of Dundonald, and brother of Archibald, ninth Earl of Dundonald.

The Rev. Augustus Campbell was at Harrow with Lord Byron, and his grandson, Mr Pitcairn Campbell, has still the walking-stick given to his grandfather by the poet. When Mr Campbell was Head-boy, Lord Palmerston was one of his fags.

Mr Campbell's daughter, Anne Pitcairn Campbell, married Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cumming of Altyre, and had three sons, and one daughter, Eliza, who married Digby Wentworth Bayard Willoughby, ninth Baron Middleton of Wollaton House, Notts; Birdsall Hall and Settrington House, Yorkshire; Middleton Hall, Warwickshire; and Applecross House, Ross-shire.

Sir Alexander's sons were—1, Sir William G. Gordon-Cumming; 2, Alexander Penrose Gordon-Cumming; 3, Captain L. Walter Frederick Campbell Gordon-Cumming.

A curious fact in connection with Lady Gordon-

Cumming's second son, Alexander Penrose, is that he went out to America, and there married Frances Campbell Eames, whose ancestor, Tidd, gave the order for the first shot on the *American* side, whilst his mother's grandfather, Major Pitcairn, fired the first shot on the *English* side. Lady Middleton has a most beautiful ring which formerly belonged to Anne Pitcairn, her great-grandmother. It is an excellently executed funeral-urn in small amethysts and diamonds, her name and the date inside it.

The Hon. Charles Cochrane, who married Major Pitcairn's second daughter Catherine, was descended from Sir William Cochrane of Cowdon, who, being very zealous for King Charles I., was created a peer by the title of Lord Cochrane of Dundonald, 1647. Charles II. advanced him to the dignity of an earldom, Earl of Dundonald, Lord Cochrane of Paisley and Ochiltree, on May the 12th, 1669.

Thomas, eighth earl, was grandson of Sir John Cochrane of Ochiltree, who was the second son of the first Earl of Dundonald. The father<sup>1</sup> of Thomas was William Cochrane of Ochiltree, and his mother was Mary Bruce, eldest daughter of Alexander, second Earl of Kincardine, and heir to her brother, third earl, who died unmarried Nov. 1706. She contested the title, but without success.

Thomas, the eighth earl, married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of James Ker of Morristown; secondly, in 1744, Jane, eldest daughter of Archibald Stuart of Torrance, and by her had—1, Elizabeth, married to Patrick Heron; 2, Argyll, died young; 3, Archibald, ninth earl; 4, Charles, born Jan. the 23rd, 1749, who was a major in the army. He had one son and one daughter, who both died young. Major Charles Cochrane, like his father-in-law Major Pitcairn, fought in the American war, in which he greatly distinguished himself. Sir Harry Clinton was very anxious to send despatches to Lord Cornwallis, then besieged at York Town, and Major Cochrane was chosen for this difficult and dangerous duty. He managed it in a wonderfully clever way. He went in a vessel as far as the Capes; from

<sup>1</sup> Burke's Peerage.



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there he took a small boat, in which he passed undiscovered through the midst of the French fleet, and arrived safely at York Town, Oct. the 18th, 1781. Earl Cornwallis, to testify his approbation of this bravery, appointed Major Cochrane one of his aides-de-camp. But, alas! a day or two afterwards his head was taken off by a cannon-ball at York Town, just before Lord Cornwallis surrendered.

Eight years after her husband's death, in 1789, on Feb. the 19th, Catherine Cochrane, *née* Pitcairn, married, secondly, Charles Owen Cambridge, Esq. of Twickenham, son of the celebrated author of "The Scribleriad" and other poems. They lived at Whitminster House near Gloucester. She died 24th Oct. 1835.

The present Earl of Dundonald's noble and heroic deeds in the African war are worthy of his illustrious forebears; and his countrymen and countrywomen will never forget the immense debt of gratitude they owe to him, and to the splendid fellows under him, for their wonderful ride to the relief of Ladysmith, which not only saved Ladysmith but probably Natal itself.

Johanna, Major Pitcairn's third daughter, married General Wellington, and her death is thus recorded: "Died in 1830, at Woolwich Common, Johanna Elizabeth, widow of the late Lieut.-General Wellington of the Royal Artillery, sister of Dr David Pitcairn."

Major Pitcairn's fourth, and youngest, daughter married General Butler. He also served with his father-in-law in the American war, and was wounded there.

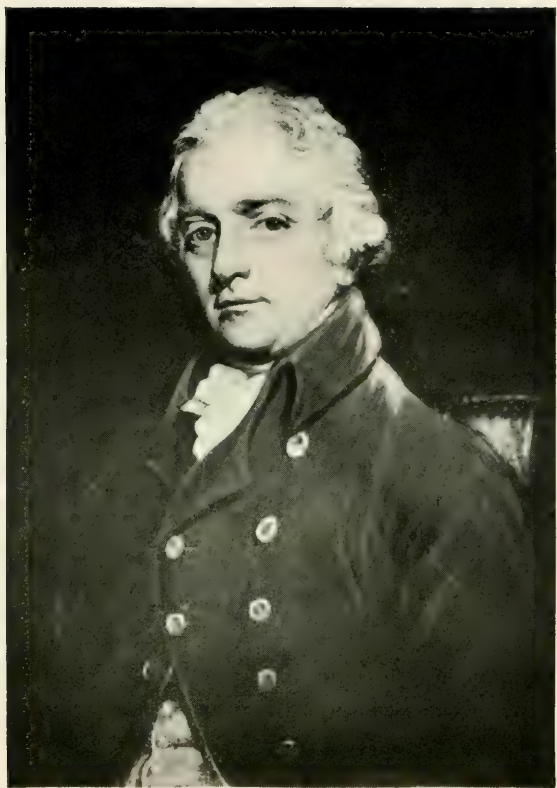
## CHAPTER XXXIV.

DR DAVID PITCAIRN, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., F.S.A.

DR DAVID PITCAIRN, a very eminent physician, was the eldest son of Major John Pitcairn and Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Dalrymple, Esq., of Arnsfield, Dumfriesshire, and Dreghorn, Mid-Lothian. He was born on May 1st, 1749, in the house of his grandfather, the Rev. David Pitcairn, minister of Dysart. After being at the High School of Edinburgh for four years, he attended the classes of the University of Glasgow until he was twenty, spending much of his leisure time with the family of the Rev. James Baillie. In 1769 Mr Pitcairn entered at the University of Edinburgh, and studied medicine there for three years. In 1772 he went to London, and attended the lectures of Dr William Hunter and Dr George Fordyce. That he might obtain an English degree in Physic, he was sent by his uncle, Dr William Pitcairn, P.R.C.P., to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in 1773, where he graduated M.B. in 1779 and M.D. in 1784. In 1779 he began practice in London. In 1780, on the resignation of his uncle, Dr William Pitcairn, he was elected physician to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and in 1792 to Christ's Hospital. The former office, on account of the great increase of his private practice, he resigned in 1793.

In 1791 his uncle, William Pitcairn, President of the Royal College of Physicians, died, and bequeathed to Dr David Pitcairn his Gold-Headed Cane, his picture of himself by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and one of Dr Archibald





Miniature after Hoppner.

DR. DAVID PITCAIRN, F.R.C.P., F.R.S.F.S.A.



Pitcairn by Sir John Medina. He also left him his fortune, and the Forthar Estate.

The following is an extract from the *Retours and Progress of Writs for the County of Fife*, when Dr David Pitcairn succeeded to the Pitcairn estates:<sup>1</sup> “David Pitcairn of Forthar, Physician in London, son of the late Major John Pitcairn of the Marines, to his uncle, William Pitcairn of Forthar, Physician in London, who died November 1791, Heir Special in the Barony of Forthar, and lands of Dovan, in the Parish of Kettle, Fifeshire. Dated 26th November 1795, and recorded 14th Dec. 1795.”

Dr David Pitcairn was Censor in 1785, 1786, 1791, 1806, Gulstonian Lecturer, and Harveian Orator in 1786.

He was elected Fellow of the College of Physicians on the 15th August 1784.

In *St Bartholomew's Book* the following notice occurs:—

“Dr Wm. Pitcairn elected Physician 1st Feb. 1749.

“Dr David Pitcairn elected Physician 10th Feb. 1780.

“In 1763 Dr Wm. Pitcairn, and subsequently Dr David Pitcairn, who were successively physicians to the Hospital, delivered lectures on Medicine. It was in one of these courses that Dr David Pitcairn pointed out, for the first time, the relation between cardiac disease and acute rheumatism.”

Further additions to the course of instruction were made by John Abernethy, who was elected Assistant Surgeon in 1787. In conjunction with his colleagues, Drs William and David Pitcairn, he established the principal lectures of the present day, himself lecturing in Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery in the Theatre erected for him by the Governors in 1791, and his high reputation attracted so great a body of students, amongst whom were Benjamin Brodie and William Lawrence, that it was found necessary, in 1822, to erect a new and larger Anatomical Theatre.

In the East Wing of *St Bartholomew's Hospital* there is a ward still called the Pitcairn Ward. In the Church of *St Bartholomew the Less*, which is without the Hospital

<sup>1</sup> *Retours for the County of Fife*; Canon Pitcairn's family papers.

walls, there is a vault wherein are buried Dr William Pitcairn, Major John Pitcairn, his brother, who was killed at Bunker's Hill, and his son, Dr David Pitcairn.

"This promising young man had realised the expectations formed of him in early life, and, before he took his doctor's degree at Cambridge, had been elected physician to St Bartholomew's Hospital. The commencement of his private medical practice may be dated from about the year 1780. He was a man of great literary accomplishments, joined to much professional knowledge. He was fond of country sports and athletic games, particularly golf. Pitcairn, although he had acquired great practical knowledge, and had made many original observations upon the history and treatment of diseases, never published anything himself. Dr David Pitcairn lived many years in Lincoln's Inn Fields, and was early admitted a Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies."<sup>1</sup>

In the time of Dr Mead's practice, the Royal Society met in one of the professor's rooms in Gresham College, and many of the members used to dine at Pontal's in Abchurch Lane. The house was kept by a Frenchman, who had been cook to M. Pontal, president of the parliament of Bordeaux; and who, from respect to the memory of his master, hung up his effigy as the outward sign of his place of entertainment. Soon after their first incorporation by charter, these convivial meetings themselves were made subservient to the purpose of science, and were intended, as well as their more formal stated assemblies, to further the progress of knowledge. For it is related that on April 2, 1682, at a supper where several of the Society were present, everything was dressed, both fish and flesh, in Monsieur Papin's digesters (then newly invented), and the philosophers ate pike and other fish bones, all without impediment; nay, the hardest bones of beef and mutton made as soft as cheese, and pigeons stewed in their own juice without any addition of water.

The experiments were shown to the King three years

<sup>1</sup> Dr Munk's Roll of the Royal College of Physicians.



before the fire of London, which drove the Society from Gresham College, when they were invited to sit at Arundel House in the Strand by Mr Howard, who also bestowed upon them the noble library that had been collected by his ancestors. After the fire the Society returned to Gresham College, which they finally left, and purchased a house in Crane Court, Fleet Street, where their meetings continued to be held until the Government gave them apartments in Somerset House. (Now the Society's rooms are in Burlington House.)

Dr Pitcairn, on the 7th April 1791, met there Prince Poniatowsky, who had been invited as a guest. Sir Joseph Banks was in the chair. His Highness appeared about fifty, had a good face, was of middling stature, was dressed in black, had the Order of Malta in his buttonhole, and wore his hair in a round curl.

By the death of Dr Warren, in June 1797, Dr Pitcairn was placed at the head of his profession in London. It was his friendship for Dr Matthew Baillie which first brought that eminent physician into notice. Although there was a great disparity of years between the two, yet a long and uninterrupted friendship of thirty years existed between them, and the confidence reposed by Dr Pitcairn in the professional abilities of his friend was very great, Dr Baillie being his only medical adviser to the last moment of his existence.

The success of Dr David Pitcairn in practice was great, and although one or two other physicians might possibly have made a larger fortune than himself, certainly no one was so frequently requested by his brethren to afford his aid in cases of difficulty. He was perfectly candid in his opinions, and very frank in acknowledging the extent of his confidence in the efficacy of medicine. To a young friend, who had very recently graduated, and who had accompanied him from London to visit a lady, ill of consumption, in the country, and who, on their return, was expressing his surprise at the apparent inertness of

the prescription which had been left behind (which was nothing more than infusion of roses, with a little additional mineral acid), he made this reply :—

“The last thing a physician learns, in the course of his experience, is to know when to do nothing, but quietly to wait, and allow Nature and time to have fair play, in checking the progress of disease, and gradually restoring the strength and health of the patient.”

Dr David Pitcairn's<sup>1</sup> manner was simple, gentle, and dignified. From his kindness of heart, he was frequently led to give more attention to his patients than could well be demanded from a physician, and as this evidently sprang from no interested motive, he often acquired considerable influence with those whom he had attended during sickness. No medical man, indeed, of his eminence in London, perhaps ever exercised his profession to such a degree gratuitously ; besides, few persons ever gained so extensive an acquaintance with the various orders of Society.

He associated much with barristers, &c., had a taste for the fine arts, and his employment as a physician in the largest hospital in the kingdom made known to him a very great number of persons of every rank and description in life. His person was tall and erect ; his countenance during youth was a model of manly beauty, and even in more advanced life he was accounted remarkably handsome. But the prosperous views that all these combined advantages might reasonably open to him were not of long duration.

Ill health obliged him to give up his profession and quit his native country. He embarked for Lisbon in the summer of 1798, where a stay of eighteen months, in the mild climate of Portugal, during which period there was no occurrence of the spitting of blood with which he had been affected, emboldened him to return to England, and for a few years more resume the practice of his profession. His health continued delicate and precarious, and in the spring of the year 1809 he fell a victim to laryngitis, a disease that had hitherto escaped the notice of medical men, and so had the peculiar and melancholy privilege of enlightening his profession in the very act of dying.

A flattering tribute to his memory, written by Dr Wills, was inserted in the ‘Gentleman's Magazine’ soon after his decease. Dr Matthew Baillie attended him, and has

<sup>1</sup> Dr Munk's Roll of the Royal College of Physicians.

described his case, with the similar one of Sir John Macnamara Hayes, who died of the same disease three months later. Pitcairn's body was examined by Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie the elder, in presence of Matthew Baillie, Sir Everard Home, and W. C. Wells.

On the 13th of April he complained of a soreness in his throat, which, however, he thought so lightly of that he continued his professional visits during that and the two following days. In the night of the 15th his throat became worse, in consequence of which he was copiously bled, at his own desire, and had a large blister applied over his throat. On the evening of the 16th Dr Baillie called upon him accidentally, not having been apprised of his illness; and, indeed, even then, observed no symptom that indicated danger.

But the disease advanced in the course of that night, and a number of leeches were applied to the throat early in the morning. At eleven o'clock in the forenoon Dr Baillie again saw him. His countenance was now sunk, his pulse feeble and unequal, his breathing laborious, and his voice nearly gone. In this lamentable state he wrote on a piece of paper that he conceived his windpipe to be the principal seat of his complaint, and that this was the croup.

At eight the patient's breathing became suddenly more difficult, and in a few minutes he was dead. This was the first case of this peculiar affection of the throat that had been distinctly recognised and described. It was an inflammation of the larynx, or upper part of the windpipe, of so insidious a nature as hitherto to have passed unnoticed. Although approaching to the well-known complaint called croup, it differs in some respects, particularly by the presence of the following symptoms: painful deglutition, and a perpetually increasing difficulty of breathing. The mouth of the larynx, or aperture by which air is admitted into the lungs, is so much narrowed that the vital functions are actually extinguished by the stricture. And yet the apparent inflammation in the throat is so inconsiderable that upon a superficial observation it would hardly be noticed; but in its progress the voice is changed, becomes altogether suppressed, and the disease terminates in suffocation.

Dying on the 17th of April 1809, in Craig's Court, Charing Cross, he was buried in St Bartholomew's the Less, in the same vault with his father Major Pitcairn and his uncle Dr William Pitcairn. Dr Pitcairn is also commemor-

ated in a mural tablet in the church of Hadham Magna, Herts:—

*To the Memory of*

DAVID PITCAIRN, M.D., F.S.A., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.,  
who departed this life, April 17th, 1809,  
aged 59 years.

His portrait by Hoppner was engraved by Bragg.

His portrait shows him to have been a handsome man, with a peculiarly frank and open countenance. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of William Almack, and she bequeathed this picture to the College.

Mrs Pitcairn's will, 11th of August 1837, says: "I give and bequeath to the Royal College of Physicians in London the portrait of my beloved husband, Dr David Pitcairn, painted by Hoppner; also the portrait of Dr William Pitcairn, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds; and the portrait of Dr Matthew Baillie, painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence. I give and bequeath to Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart., my picture of his great-grandfather, Dr Archibald Pitcairn, painted by Sir John Medina.

"I give to his brother, Hamilton Lloyd Anstruther, Esq., my little silver cup, with the Greek motto, that was his great-grandfather's, Dr Archibald Pitcairn."

Mrs Pitcairn at her death left her other property to Sir John, George, and the Rev. Augustus Campbell, who were Dr David Pitcairn's nephews.

Dr John Latham, M.D., in his book on gout and rheumatism, states that David Pitcairn was the first to discover that valvular disease of the heart was a frequent result of rheumatic fever, and that he published his discovery in his teaching at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

His young cousin, William Pitcairn, brother of Sir James Pitcairn, to whom he had shown the greatest kindness, was much attached to him, and was with him when he died. He calls him his "dear Doctor, and greatest benefactor in early life."

Dr Pitcairn had two or three country places: one was at Hadham Magna, Herts, and one at Hawley, Kent. His



wife was devoted to her husband, unceasingly mourned his loss, and was always alluding to her married happiness in most touching terms in her letters to his sister, Anne Campbell, which are still preserved.

William Pitcairn was with her and helped her at Craig's Court all through the time of the doctor's illness and after his death. He treasured every scrap of his writing, and even kept a list of his patients.<sup>1</sup>

LETTER *from* MRS WILLIAM CAMPBELL, DAVID PITCAIRN'S  
Sister ANNE, *to* her Cousin, WILLIAM PITCAIRN.

DEAR WILLIAM,—I am quite wretched at being obliged to go out of town to-day; but it cannot be helped, and I shall take it as the greatest favour if you will write me a line by the post to-day and also to-morrow,—direct it to Dunsborough House, Ripley, Surrey. If you cannot give me very good intelligence, I shall come to town on Wednesday. Give my kind love to Mrs Pitcairn.—Yours sincerely,

A. CAMPBELL.

There was a short letter by Dr David Pitcairn to William Pitcairn in the latter's scrap-book. Under it he writes:—

"The above is the writing of my benefactor and best friend in early life, the late Dr David Pitcairn; the 12th of January 1803 is the date. I prize it very highly." (Then follows Sir Everard Home's post-mortem report of Dr Pitcairn.) "The good doctor died the 17th April 1809."

Dr Pitcairn's valuable prints and drawings were sold at Christie's, and also his house at Hawley, soon after his death. His estate of Forthar was sold by Sir John and George Campbell to General Robert Balfour of Balbirnie some years after Mrs David Pitcairn's death, whose heirs they were.

To be sold by Christie in his great room, Pall Mall, a genuine assemblage of highly finished modern drawings, and a complete collection of the works of Sir Robert Strange the celebrated engraver, the property of the late David Pitcairn, M.D., F.R.S., and

<sup>1</sup> From Canon Pitcairn's family papers. See Forthar Pitcairns.

F.A.S., brought from his late dwelling, Craig's Court. The drawings comprise the very choicest productions of those admired artists Cipriani, Zuccarelli, Clerisseau, M. Ricei, Cosway, Wheatley, Hamilton, Hearne, Sandby, Barrett, Glover, C. L. Smith, Metz, Fiesinger.

#### PARTICULARS OF SALE.

A most delightful freehold estate, with house, offices, stabling, kitchen-garden, pleasure-grounds in the finest order, shaded by lime and chestnut trees of the finest growth, and washed by the Darent, a rapid trout-stream, and meadows, in a beautiful vale, in the whole about 11 acres, situated at Hawley, 2 miles from Dartford, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Farningham, in a beautiful part of Kent, which by order of the executors of David Pitcairn, M.D., deceased, will be sold by auction by Mr Christie at his great room, Pall Mall, London, on Thursday, the 23rd June 1809, punctually at 2 o'clock."

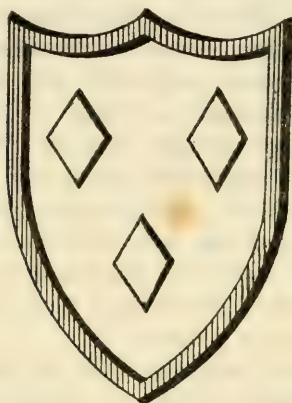
Note in his cousin William Pitcairn's handwriting: "I passed many happy days at Hawley, one of the dear doctor's country seats."

In the Censor's room in the College of Physicians there are still the two fine Pitcairn portraits, left to the College by Mrs Pitcairn; also the one of Dr Baillie by Sir Thomas Lawrence. The Gold-Headed Cane is in a glass case in the Censor's room, and the arms of Dr William Pitcairn are also in the window of the College. They are: a shield, with three mascles, two and one, for Pitcairn, surrounded with a bordure ermine.

*Note.*—The Pitcairns of Kinnaird, Newburgh, Fife, also claim descent from the Rev. James Pitcairn of Kettle.

## BRANCH V.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF DREGHORN CASTLE.



#### ARMS OF PITCAIRN OF DREGHORN.

Argent, three lozenges, within a Bordure Gules.

*Crest.*

The Sun, surrounded with clouds.

*Motto.*

Spes Lucis Eternæ.



## CHAPTER XXXV.

### THE DREGHORN PITCAIRNS.

DREGHORN CASTLE, the old home of this Branch of the Pitcairns, is situated in a romantic and picturesque valley through which runs the Water of Leith. It is about two and a half miles south-west from Edinburgh; but though so near a large town, it still retains its old sylvan beauty. Dreghorn is in the parish of Colinton, and the name of the estate is a very old one.

Amongst the missing Crown charters of Robert II. was one "confirming a lease of the barony of Redhall in the

shire of Edinburgh, 'except Dreghorn and Woodhall,' by Alexander Meyaners of Woodhall, to the Earl of Fife and Menteith."<sup>1</sup>

The old castle of Dreghorn was built by Sir William Murray, Master of Works to King Charles II. It formerly belonged to Sir James Foulis (afterwards Lord Colinton); but he having warmly espoused the Royal cause, his estates were sequestrated, in 1654, by the Protectorate. He had to sell large portions of them, Dreghorn amongst the number. This estate then came into the possession of David Pitcairn, who lived there many years, and died in 1709. The present house was built more than a hundred years ago: it is now in the possession of Mr Macfie, who has kindly allowed a photograph to be taken of it, and also of David Pitcairn's tomb.

The Pitcairns of Dreghorn have for their coat of arms three lozenges argent, within a border gules, as in the plate of Achievement.<sup>2</sup> Their motto, *Spes lucis eternæ*; the crest, A sun with waved rays, like a star, encircled by clouds.

Alexander Pitcairne, minister of Tannadyce, Forfarshire, was son of David Pitcairne, sixteenth laird of Forthar, Fife, and is the same Alexander Pitcairne who later became Dean of Orkney in 1665, born 1600 or before. The family was subjected to much loss and suffering during the civil wars, and Alexander's petition for redress lay before the Scottish Parliament from 1641 to 1661, when it was "recommendit" to the Privy Council.<sup>3</sup>

This Alexander Pitcairne had a son Alexander, who was a celebrated divine. He was born in 1622,<sup>4</sup> and entered St Salvator's College, St Andrews, in November 1639, matriculated in February 1640 (University Matriculation Books), M.A. in 1643, became Regent in February 1648, and so continued until December 1656, when he was ordained

<sup>1</sup> Shankie's History of Colinton.

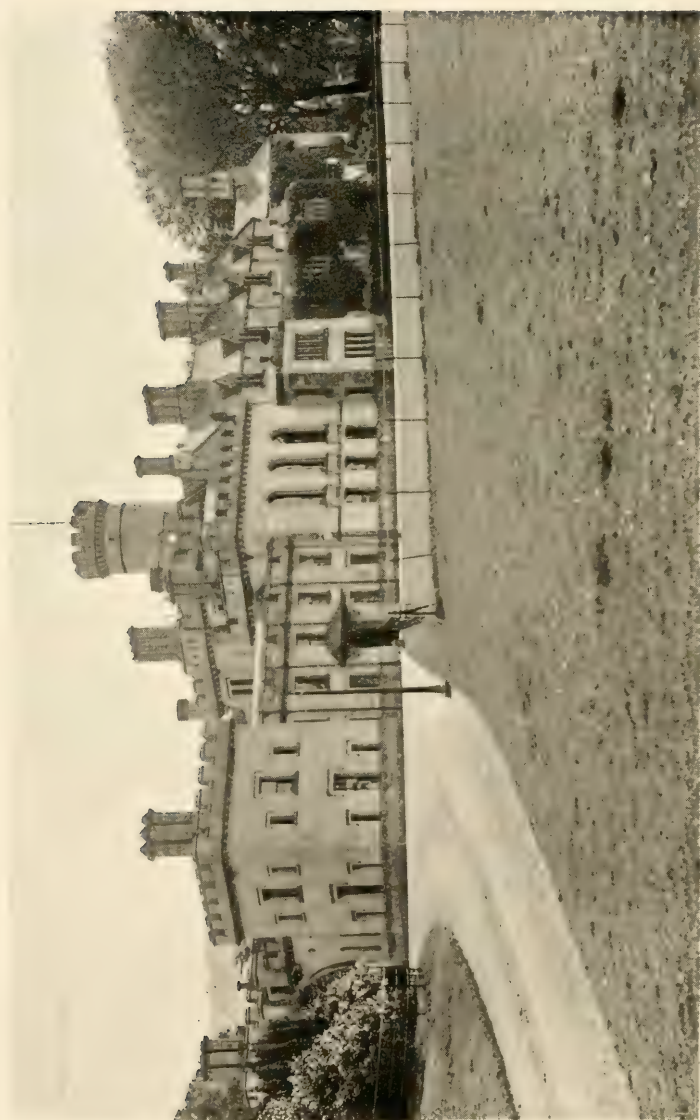
<sup>2</sup> Nisbet's Heraldry.

<sup>3</sup> Acts of Parl., vol. vii.

<sup>4</sup> Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland, vol. iii.; Scott's Fasti.







DREGGHORN CASTLE.

minister of Dron, Perthshire,—a little village in Glenfarg, near the Bridge of Earn. Although he was deprived by Acts of Parliament and of the Privy Council in 1662, Robert Leighton, Bishop of Dunblane, within whose diocese Dron was included, so highly respected his character, learning, and scruples, that Pitcairne was permitted to continue to discharge his ministerial duties (Register of the Diocesan Synod of Dunblane). But after Ramsay had succeeded Leighton as bishop, Pitcairne was charged at a Synodical meeting, held at Dunblane on 8th October 1678, with having “begun of late to doe things verie disorderlie,” in admitting people of other parishes to church ordinances. His case was referred to the moderator of his Presbytery, who, on 8th April 1679, reported that “Mr Pitcairne had verie thankfully entertained the connivance and kindness he had met with,” the matter of offence being “done mostly without his knowledge.” The imposition of the test in 1681 brought matters to a crisis, and, Pitcairne being again deprived, the Crown appointed a successor. When the latter endeavoured to enter on the charge, so determined a resistance was offered that the Privy Council instructed the Marquis of Atholl to quarter troops on the parish, to hold courts, and fine, imprison, and scourge old and young, men and women, who failed to assist the Crown’s nominee. Ejected from his parish, Pitcairne sought refuge in Holland, where in 1685 his treatise on “Justification” was published. In 1687 he returned to Scotland, and in 1690 was by Act of Parliament restored to his parish (Wodrow, Hist., iii. 390). At the instance of William of Orange he was appointed Provost of St Salvator’s College, St Andrews, in 1691, and became, in 1693, Principal of St Mary’s College—a post which he retained till his death, September 1695, aged seventy-three (Minutes of Synod of Fife, App., p. 214).

All the Principal’s books are controversial in tendency and aim—in his own words, “to vindicate orthodoxy and confute ancient and modern error.” His best known and earliest work is entitled ‘The Spiritual Sacrifice; or, a

Treatise concerning the Saints' Communion with God in Prayer.' Edinburgh: Robert Brown, 1664, in two volumes quarto, separately issued. The dedication to the Viscountess Stormont is prefixed to vol. ii. Pitcairne also wrote a philosophical and metaphysical treatise, dedicated to Robert Boyle, and entitled '*Compendiaria et perfacilis Physiologia idea Aristotelicæ unacum Anatome Cartesianisme. . . . Authore Alexandro Pitcarnio Scoto Philosophiæ quondam professore nunc Dronensis Ecclesiæ Stratherniæ Pastore,*' 8vo, London, 1676; as well as '*Harmonia Evangelica Apostolorum Pauli et Jacobi in doctrina de justificatione,*' 8vo, Rotterdam, 1685, dedicated to Sir James Dalrymple, first Viscount Stair.

Wodrow says of him that he was "a worthy and learned minister, known through the Reformed Churches by his writings."<sup>1</sup>

The Principal died in 1696. "He was married twice. First, on the 31st of March 1665, to Janet Clark of St Andrews. By her he had four sons—(1) David of Dreghorn; (2) Alexander, minister of Cupar, born in 1650, died 1700; (3) George Pitcairne, Commissary of Dunkeld, who was born in 1675 and died 1744; (4) George, who was married to Beatrice Calderwood, heiress of Balbougie, and left two daughters—(1) Janet Pitcairn, married John Cunningham, W.S., in 1729, of Balbougie, and had one daughter Alison; (2) Rachel Pitcairn, born 1695, married Dr Alex. Spence of Berryhole, about 1722. One of her great-great-grand-children is J. M. Morries, Esq. of Gogar, Stirling."<sup>2</sup> The Principal had one daughter, Lucretia, by his first wife.

Alexander Pitcairn married, secondly, Rachel Adams, and had two more sons and three daughters. (5) Joseph, who was minister of Newburgh, and translated to Kingsbarns in 1701. He died in 1737. Joseph had a son, Joseph Pitcairn, who was minister of Carnbee in 1741:

<sup>1</sup> Wodrow's History of the Church of Scotland, vol. iii. p. 390; and Scott's Fasti.

<sup>2</sup> Communicated by J. M. Morries, Esq. of Gogar, Stirling.



he married Janet MacCormac, descended from King Robert Bruce.

He gave the communion cups to the church of Carnbee: they are still in use, and have his name on them. He left two children—Joseph Pitcairn,<sup>1</sup> who became a merchant in America, and left money to the parish; and Helen, who married the Rev. Alexander Brodie, 1779. She died the 9th of March 1812, aged forty-nine.<sup>2</sup>

The second daughter of Alexander Pitcairn was Rachel; third, Jean, fourth, Anne. His sixth son was Andrew, who married Sophia, eldest daughter of Robert Innes, W.S. She died in 1754, Andrew Pitcairne, her husband, having predeceased her in 1737.

David Pitcairn, the eldest son of Alexander Pitcairn, the Principal of New College, St Andrews, became a Writer to the Signet, and purchased the estate of Dreghorn from Sir James Foulis of Colinton, after 1669. He was a W.S. in 1690, 1692, and 1693.

This Sir James Foulis was actively engaged in the civil war, after the death of King Charles I. During the Protectorate he was betrayed into the hands of the English, with the Earls of Leven, Crawford, Marischal, and Lord Ogilvy, and carried in a vessel to London. After the Restoration, Sir James Foulis, who was a kinsman of the Earls of Rosebery, was made one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and, in 1704, appointed Lord Justice-Clerk, under the designation of Lord Colinton. He was a friend of David Pitcairn, and he and his relation, Sir James Primrose of Carrington (who was elevated to the peerage the 30th of Nov. 1703, as Lord Primrose and Castlefield, and Viscount Primrose), were witnesses to the baptism of David Pitcairn's son James in 1692.

<sup>1</sup> This Joseph married Lady Edward Fitzgerald (Pamela), daughter of Madame de Genlis.

<sup>2</sup> Helen Pitcairn's daughter, Janet, married Duncan Cowan, 1780-1824. Her descendants include the Wahabs, the Cowans, and the Maddens. Their daughter, Janet Cowan, 1809-1895, married Charles Wahab, whose son, Edward Wahab, married Mary Alice Wilson, and has four children—1, Gladys; 2, Kathleen; 3, Eddie; 4, Colin.

Mr Pitcairn married Mary Anderson in 1689, or before, and had five sons and seven daughters.

The witnesses to the children's births were Mr Alexander Pitcairn, Minister at Dron (David Pitcairn's father); George Pitcairn, Commissary of Dunkeld in 1690, 1692, 1699 (David Pitcairn's brother).

The other witnesses for those years were, John Menzies, Advocate; Adam Chrystie, Clerk; Sir James Foulis of Colinton; Sir James Primrose of Carrington. "1692, Mr James Anderson, W.S., Sir Robert Christie (late Lord Provost)." "1699, Mr Newman Lowis of Merchistown; and, 1699, William Calderwood, Advocate."<sup>1</sup>

Mr Pitcairn resided much on his property, showed a deep interest in all parochial matters, and enjoyed in a remarkable degree public respect and confidence. He was, for example, an active and efficient member of the kirk-session, which he represented for many years at different times, in the Presbytery of Edinburgh, and in the Synod. "In 1694, the Session recommend to Mr Pitcairn's care the provision of our Kirk until the minister (Mr Jas. Thomson) return from the north, where he has been ordered to go by the Synod." He was also the ruling elder of the parish church for many years. Two damask towels are in the possession of the Session, given in 1706 by David Pitcairn of Dreghorn. Mr Shankie, in his book, 'The History of Colinton,' quotes the following :—

"Mr Pitcairn, who, as will soon appear, was so remarkable for illustrious descendants, could boast of progenitors no less eminent. He was sprung from the ancient and honourable family of which, in his day, Dr Archibald Pitcairne, famous as a Latin poet, and 'the honour of his profession in Scotland,' was a member. Dr Webster dedicates his memoirs of that remarkable man (Edin., 1731, 8vo) to Dr William Pitcairne of London, his kinsman.

"Both Mr Pitcairn of Dreghorn and the physician were descended from the Pitcairns of that Ilk and Forthar, of whom one was Andrew Pitcairne, who with no fewer than seven sons fell at Flodden (1513), gallantly fighting by the side of their Sovereign."<sup>2</sup>

Mr Pitcairn, as we have seen, died in 1709, and left a widow and a numerous family. He was succeeded in his

<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh Registers.

<sup>2</sup> Biographical Annals of Colinton, by Mr Murray.

estate of Dreghorn by his eldest son Patrick, who followed the same honourable profession as his father, and who, for family purposes, sold the property in 1715 to his brother-in-law, George Home of Kello. Mrs Pitcairn survived her husband upwards of twenty years, and died at Bristo, in the near neighbourhood of Edinburgh, as is attested by the following extract from the parochial Register of Funerals: "December 27th, 1729. The Lady Dreghorn, from Bristo, buried in her own isle [aisle], mortcloth, nine pounds Scots, being in a hearse."

The tomb, it may be stated, has not been used by any of the successive proprietors of Dreghorn since Mr Pitcairn's time, and it contains none but his mortal remains, and those of his wife, *Lady Dreghorn*, as she is termed in the parochial records.

In the churchyard of Colinton there is a splendid monument, which is nearly entire, except as regards the following simple inscription, recently brought to light, and all but illegible, having been covered with rubbish beyond the memory of the present generation:—

"Here lies Mr DAVID PITCAIRN of Dreghorn, who departed this life 27th January 1709, and of his age the 60 year: leaving behind him Mary Anderson, his wife, with five sons and seven daughters by her." His family erected in the same year this monument to his memory. It was of solid masonry with sculptured armorial bearings.

In 1864 A.D. it was restored, and a plate inserted with the following inscription:—

#### RESTORED,

Under the direction of THOMAS MURRAY, LL.D., at the request of the undernamed descendants of DAVID PITCAIRN of Dreghorn—

WILLIAM HUGH ELLIOT, 3rd Earl of Minto; MARY ELIZA ELLIOT, 2nd Baroness Dunfermline; FRANCES ELLIOT, 1st Countess Russell; ELIZ. BRYDONE, Lady Adam; WILLIAM PATRICK ADAM, M.P. of Blair Adam; WILLIAM ROBERTSON, of Kinloch Moidart.

The plate was inserted, placed in position, and the work completed in the presence of Lord Dunfermline, the tomb being visited the same day by Lady Dunfermline. A yew-tree was planted in the centre of the enclosure by the Hon. Miss Abercromby.

To this list of descendants may be added the names of Lord

Brougham; James Cunningham, Esq., 50 Queen Street; Alex. James Russell, C.S., Shandwick Place; John Richardson of The Kirklands; the Misses Robertson Macdonald, &c.

The property of the interesting tomb in question, the most interesting by far of any rural monument in this county, belongs to the estate of Dreghorn.<sup>1</sup>

When David Pitcairn died, Patrick, his eldest son, succeeded to Dreghorn on the 6th of April 1709. He is mentioned in the *Retours*,<sup>2</sup> vol. i., as being heir special in Dreghorn, and several sums of money secured thereon. His sister, Janet, married, firstly, William Walwood of Touch, and had a son, Henry Walwood (or Welwood) of Touch. She married, secondly, George Home of Kello, who bought Dreghorn from his brother-in-law, Patrick Pitcairn of Dreghorn, in 1715. On April 1, 1719, there was a

Charter by the Provost and Bailies of Edinburgh to George Home of Kello and Janet Pitcairn his spouse, of a tenement in the City of Edinburgh, which belonged before to various persons in succession, and among others, to William Walwood of Touch and Janet Pitcairn, then his spouse, by a decree of the Lords of Session, dated 23rd November 1705, at the instance of Henry Walwood, heir of the said late William Walwood and others, against Mr David Pitcairn of Dreghorn, Mary Anderson his spouse, Patrick Pitcairn, younger of Dreghorn, and the said Janet Pitcairn, then widow of William Walwood, &c.<sup>3</sup>

Janet Pitcairn and her husband, Mr Home, settled at Dreghorn, and had two children,—one son, William, and a daughter, Mary or Margaret, who became the wife of Patrick, first Viscount Garnock, of the Lindsay family. Their son George became twenty-first Earl of Crawford. Mr Home's children had a tutor called David Malloch or Mallet, who was with them for some years at Dreghorn. In 1723 he wrote a pretty and well-known ballad at Dreghorn called "William and Margaret."

The next owner of Dreghorn Castle was Robert Dalrymple, W.S., of Arnsfield, Dumfriesshire. He owned it from 1735 to 1754. His daughter, Elizabeth, married Major John Pitcairn, a cadet of the Pitcairns of Forthar.

<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh Courant, July 2, 1864.

<sup>2</sup> Canon Pitcairn's papers.

<sup>3</sup> Laing Charters, No. 1591, box 41.





TOMB OF DAVID PITCAIRN, OF DREGHORN CASTLE,  
1709.



The Dreghorn estate changed hands very often. The following is a list of the various owners:—

1. David Pitcairn, who died 1709.
2. Patrick Pitcairn, his son, disposed of Dreghorn, in 1715, to George Home of Kello.
3. Robert Dalrymple, W.S., from 1735 to 1754.
4. Dr Andrew St Clair, from 1754 to 1760.
5. George Dempster of Dunnichen and Skibo, from the latter date to 1763-64.
6. John Maclaurin, Lord Dreghorn, from 1763 to 1796. His son, Colin, an Advocate, sold it in the year following to
7. Alexander Trotter, Paymaster of the Navy, who was succeeded (1847) by his son Archibald, and whose grandson, Mr Coutts Trotter, disposed of it in 1862 to
8. R. A. Macfie, Esq., merchant in Liverpool, now of Dreghorn.

David Pitcairn had seven daughters and five sons,—(1) Patrick, his heir, who died childless; (1) Christine, born in 1682; (2) Eleanor, married to the Rev. W. Robertson, of whom later; (3) Janet, who married, first, William Walwood of Touch, secondly, George Home of Kello; (4) Grizzell, born 1690; (2) James, merchant, born 1692; (3) Alexander, born 1698; (4) David, born 1699; (5) Mary, born 1699.<sup>1</sup> Mary married in 1717 the Rev. J. Nisbet, one of the Edinburgh clergy. They had one son, James, born 1718, and one daughter, Mary. The witnesses to their son's baptism were:—

<i>Witnesses</i> —		Mr Alexander Nisbet, Apothecary	1718
		John Inglis of Auchendinnie	1718
		Andrew Inglis, Advocate.	
		Robert Newton.	
Mary Pitcairn's brothers.	{	Patrick Pitcairn of Dreghorn	1718
		Alexander Pitcairn, W.S.	1718
		John Home of Kello.	
		Thomas Paterson of West Kirk. <sup>2</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> I have not been able to trace the names of David Pitcairn's three other children.

<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh City Birth Records.

One of the Inglis family,<sup>1</sup> Captain John Inglis, R.N., who succeeded to Redhall and Auchendinny, commanded H.M.S. *Belliqueux* at the battle of Camperdown. John Alexander Inglis, Esq., is the present proprietor of Redhall and Auchendinny. The Rev. Mr Nisbet, Mary Pitcairn's husband, lived in High Street, Edinburgh. He met with an accident when going up the "common stair," and fractured his skull. He survived two days, and died in June 1755 in his eightieth year. His wife died two years afterwards, in 1757, and was buried at Greyfriars': "Mary Pitcairn, relict of James Nisbet" (Greyfriars' Records).

Alexander, David Pitcairn's third son, was born before 1698, and was Writer to the Signet in 1719. He married Margaret, daughter of James Deans of Woodhouselee, in 1718, and succeeded to Woodhouselee in 1720-34.<sup>2</sup> They had two children,—James, born 28th of March 1719, and David, 24th of March 1720. His wife died in 1741.

"Mrs Margaret Deans, spouse to Alexander Pitcairn of Woodhouselee, 26.3.1741" (Greyfriars' Reg., W. Millar's Tomb).

The witnesses to his children's baptisms were<sup>3</sup>—

	Sir John Home of Blairadam	1719
	Robert Pringle, younger of Stichill	1719
	James Deans of Woodhouselee	1719
Senators of the College of Justice.	Patrick, Viscount Garnock	1720
	Sir William Calderwood of Polton	1720
	Sir Walter Pringle of Newhall (Lord)	1720
	Thomas Pringle, W.S.	1720
	Patrick Pitcairn, W.S., of Dreghorn	1720
	—Edinburgh Birth Records.	

Patrick, Viscount Garnock, married Alexander Pitcairn's niece, Mary Home, and Patrick Pitcairn of Dreghorn was Alexander's brother.

The three Pringles were distinguished men. Their father, Sir Robert Pringle of Stichill, was made a Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1683. He married Margaret, daughter

<sup>1</sup> History of Colinton, by Mr Shankie.

<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh City Birth Records.

<sup>3</sup> Communicated by J. M. Morries, Esq. of Gogar, Stirling.



of Sir John Hope, Lord Craighall, and had eighteen children!

Sir Walter, the one mentioned here, was made a Lord of Session, under the title of Lord Newhall, and created a Knight bachelor.

Robert Pringle became Secretary of State, and Secretary for War.

Thomas, the fourth son, Writer to the Signet, had three sons: Robert, who became a Lord of Session, as Lord Edgefield; John, Clerk of Session; James, a general.

Alexander Pitcairn wrote a pamphlet in Latin proving "The Absurdities of that enslaving and tyrannical doctrine of passive obedience, and non-resistance in all cases, Sovereignty, &c. By Alexander Pitcairn, Writer to His Majesty's Signet, A.M. Printed at Edinburgh, 1754. Dedicated to His Grace Archibald, Duke of Argyle."

Eleanor, David Pitcairn's daughter, married the Rev. William Robertson: he was the second son of William Robertson of Gladney, near Cupar, Fife, who was a younger son of the proprietor of Muirton, County of Elgin, fourth in descent from Robertson of Struan, Head of the family.

"Robert Robertson of Struan, Perthshire, from whom the Muirton branch sprang, was married to his relative, Eleanora, daughter of the Earl of Atholl (Stewart) by his wife Eleanora, daughter of the Earl of Orkney (Sinclair). The Stewarts, Earls of Atholl (now represented, through a female, by the Duke of the same name), were descended from Sir John Stewart of Bonkyl, Berwickshire, who had married the only daughter and heiress of Sir John Bonkyl of that Ilk."<sup>1</sup> The Robertsons, therefore, could boast of the highest lineage.

The Rev. William Robertson, who became minister of Old Greyfriars' Church in Edinburgh, left by his wife, Eleanor Pitcairn, two sons, of whom William, the future historian, was the elder, and six daughters. Of the younger members of this family we shall afterwards speak. Of Mrs

<sup>1</sup> See Douglas's Peerage, vol. i. pp. 44, 8, 346, 43.

Robertson, Lord Brougham, after characterising her husband as remarkable "for the sweetness of his placid temper and the cheerfulness of his kindly disposition," writes: "Mrs William Robertson was a woman of great ability and force of character; but, like many of that type, women especially, she was more stern and severe than amiable; and this contrast, unfavourable to the one, redounded to the augmented love of the other." It cannot be doubted that Principal Robertson's character was derived from both parents, for although he was mild and gentle in his temper, and of a kindly demeanour, which he derived from his father, his firmness, decision, and his pleasure in the society of his friends, came from his mother's side.





By Sir Joshua Reynolds, P.R.A.

DR. WILLIAM ROBERTSON.



## CHAPTER XXXVI.

DR WILLIAM ROBERTSON.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D.D, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, and Historiographer to his Majesty for Scotland, was born in 1721, at Borthwick, in the county of Mid-Lothian, where his father was then minister, and received the first rudiments of his education at the school of Dalkeith, which, from the great reputation of Mr Leslie as a teacher, was at that time resorted to from all parts of Scotland. In 1733 he again joined his father's family on their removal to Edinburgh, and towards the end of the same year became a student at the University. When his studies were finished in 1743 he was presented to the living of Gladsmuir in East Lothian by the Earl of Hopetoun. The income was very small, the whole stipend not exceeding £100 a-year. But the preferment, such as it was, came to him at a time singularly fortunate; for not long afterwards his father and mother died of fever within a few hours of each other, leaving a family of six daughters and a younger son in such circumstances as required every aid which his slender funds enabled him to bestow. He invited his father's family to Gladsmuir, and continued to educate his sisters under his own roof till they were married and comfortably settled. Nor did he think himself at liberty till then to think of his own happiness and union with one whom for years he had greatly loved. This marriage may be justly numbered among the most fortunate incidents of his life. He remained single till 1751, when he married his cousin, Miss Mary Nisbet,

daughter of the Rev. James Nisbet and Mary Pitcairn, his mother's sister.

There was little to note of his life at Gladsmuir until 1745, when Scotland was in the unhappy throes of civil war, and when he and Dr Carlyle with other friends took part in the defence of Edinburgh. In the Autobiography of Dr Alexander Carlyle of Inveresk there are some amusing descriptions of the expeditions and adventures he and his friend Dr Robertson went through together; and by the kind courtesy of Messrs Wm. Blackwood & Sons I am allowed to quote the following extracts. The first is in 1745, when, having volunteered for the protection of Edinburgh, Dr Carlyle, Dr Robertson, and other friends met to receive their instructions from the commanding officer in the College Yards:—

When we were dismissed from the College Yards we were ordered to rendezvous there again in the evening, as night guards were to be posted round the whole city. Twelve or thirteen of the most intimate friends went to a late dinner to a Mrs Turnbull's, then next house to the Tron Church. Many things were talked of with great freedom, for the company were William M'Ghie, William Cleghorn, William Robertson, John Home, Hugh Ballantine, and I.<sup>1</sup>

We endeavoured to engage as many as we could to meet us at Haddington, and there deliberate what was to be done, as we conjectured that, now that the town of Edinburgh had surrendered, Sir John Cope would not land nearer than Dunbar. Upon being asked by two of my friends what I was to do—namely, William Robertson and William Cleghorn—I told them that I meant to go that night to my father's at Prestonpans, where, if they would join me next day, by that time events might take place that would fix our resolution. Our ardour for arms and the field was not abated.<sup>2</sup>

About mid-day I grew anxious for the arrival of my two companions, Cleghorn and Robertson. I therefore walked out on the road to Edinburgh, when, on going as far as where the turnpike is now, below Drummorie, I met with Robertson on horseback, who told me that a little way behind him was Cleghorn and a cousin of his own, a Mr Fraser of the Excise, who wished to accompany us to Sir John Cope's camp, for it was now known that he was to land that day at Dunbar, and the city of Edinburgh had been surrendered early that morning to the Highland army.

<sup>1</sup> Autobiography of Dr Carlyle, p. 120.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 124.

We waited till our companions came up, and walked together to my father's house at Prestonpans, where I had ordered some dinner to be prepared for them by two o'clock. They were urgent to have it sooner, as they wished to begin our journey towards Dunbar as long before sunset as they could.

As we were finishing a small bowl of punch that I had made for them after dinner, James Hay, the gentleman I mentioned before, paid us a visit, and immediately after the ordinary civilities, said earnestly that he had a small favour to ask of us, which was that we would be so good as accept of a small collation which his sister and he had provided at their house—belonging to Charles Sheriff, the most eminent merchant in the place, who had died not long before, and left a widow and four daughters with this gentleman, their uncle, to manage their affairs. We declined accepting this invitation for fear of being too late. He continued strongly to solicit our company, adding that he would detain us a very short while, as he had only four bottles of burgundy, which if we did not accept of, he would be obliged to give to the Highlanders. The name of burgundy, which some of us had never tasted, disposed us to listen to terms, and we immediately adjourned to Mrs Sheriff's, not an hundred yards distant. We found very good apples and pears and biscuit set out for us, and after one bottle of claret to wash away the taste of the whisky punch, we fell to the burgundy, which we thought excellent; and in little more than an hour we were ready to take the road, it being then not long after five o'clock. Robertson mounted his horse, and left us to go round by his house at Gladsmuir to get a little money, as he had not wherewithal to defray his expenses, and mentioned an hour when he promised to meet us at Bangley Braefoot, Maggie Johnstone's, a public-house on the road leading to Dunbar, by Garlton Hills, a mile to the north of Haddington. . . .

When we came within sight of the door of the inn, we saw Robertson dismounting from his horse: we got some beer or porter to refresh us after our walk, and having broken off in the middle of a keen dispute between Cleghorn and a recruiting sergeant, whether the musket and bayonet, or broadsword and target, were the best weapons, we proceeded on our journey, still a little doubtful if it were true that Sir John Cope had arrived. We proceeded slowly, for it was dark, till we came to Linton Bridge. Robertson, with his usual prudence, proposed to stay there all night, it being ten o'clock, and double beds for us all. Cleghorn's ardour and mine resisted this proposal; and getting a loan of Robertson's horse, we proceeded on to the camp at Dunbar, that we might be more certain of Sir John's arrival. At Belton Inn, within a mile of the camp, we were certified of it, and might then have turned in;

but we obstinately persisted in our plan, fancying that we should find friends among the officers to receive us into their tents. When we arrived at the camp we were not allowed admittance, and the officer on the picket, whom Cleghorn knew, assured us that there was not an inch of room for us or our horse either in camp or at Dunbar, and advised us to return. Being at last persuaded that Cope was landed, and that we had played the fool, we first attempted Belton Inn; but it was choked full by that time, as we were convinced by eight or ten footmen lounging in the kitchen on tables and chairs. We tried the inn at Linton, with the same success. At last we were obliged to knock up the minister, Mat. Reid, at two in the morning, who, taking us for marauders from the camp, kept us an hour at the door. We were hardly well asleep when, about six, Robertson came to demand his horse, quite stout and well refreshed, as well as his cousin Fraser, while we were jaded and undone: such is the difference between wisdom and folly.<sup>1</sup>

In 1758 Robertson was appointed to Lady Yester's Church, and then to the Old Greyfriars', Edinburgh, where both his father and father-in-law had been before him.

The establishment of the "Select Society" in Edinburgh, in the year 1754, opened a field for the display and for the cultivation of his talents.

Among the most distinguished speakers in the Select Society were, Sir Gilbert Elliot, Mr Wedderburn, Mr Andrew Pringle, Lord Kames, Mr Walter Stewart, Lord Elibank, and Dr Robertson. The Honourable Charles Townshend spoke once. David Hume and Adam Smith never opened their lips.

One of the Select Society was Lord Dalmeny: he was a man of letters and an amateur, and, though he did not speak himself, generally carried home six or eight of those who did, to sup with him. He died in 1755.

It was during this Assembly that the Carriers' Inn, in the lower end of the West Bow, got into some credit, and was called the Diversorium.

There lived at that time, in the corner of Pinkie House, by himself, Archibald Robertson, commonly called the Gospel, uncle to the celebrated Dr Robertson—a very singular character, who made great part of our amusement at Pinkie House, as he came through a passage from his own apartment every night to supper, and dined there likewise as often as he pleased, for which he paid

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<sup>1</sup> Autobiography of Dr Carlyle, pp. 128-131.



them a cart of coals in the week, as he took charge of Pinkie coal, which his brother-in-law, William Adam, and he, had a lease of.<sup>1</sup>

Home and I happening to dine with Dr Robertson at his uncle's, who lived in Pinkie House, a week before the General Assembly, we proposed to . . . make our Assembly Parties at the Carriers' Inn. This was accordingly executed, but we could not be concealed; for, as it happens in such cases, the out-of-the-way place and mean house, and the attempt to be private, made it the more frequented—and no wonder, when the company consisted of Robertson, Home, Ferguson, Jardine, and Wilkie, with the addition of David Hume and Lord Elbank, the Master of Ross, and Sir Gilbert Elliot."<sup>2</sup>

In 1758, as already related (see *ante* p. 429), Dr Robertson and Dr Carlyle went for a jaunt to London together, the former to arrange about the publication of his 'History of Scotland,' and the latter to see "the lions."<sup>3</sup>

Dr Carlyle states that they stayed with Dr William Pitcairn, "a great friend of Dr Dickson's" (Dr Carlyle's brother-in-law), and also "a *cousin* of Dr Robertson's." This is indirect valuable evidence that Dr William Pitcairn and Dr William Robertson (through his mother, Eleanor Pitcairn) were both cadets of the Pitcairns of Forthar. There is proof positive of the descent of Dr Pitcairn, and strong presumptive evidence in Dr Robertson's case.

Every time they went to London, they stayed at Dr Pitcairn's for weeks at a time, and were always cordially welcomed. (See Dr W. Pitcairn's Life.)

Dr Carlyle describes their visit to London most graphically:—

We were engaged with a party of friends to dine at Billingsgate on fish of the season, so took leave of Mr Jackson, and left him to come at his leisure, while we made the best of our way down the Thames, and halted only at Richmond, where Robertson had never been. . . . We were a company of fifteen or sixteen, whose names I can't exactly remember; but when I say that there were Sir David Kinloch, James Veitch (Ellick), Sir Robert Keith, then only a captain in the Scotch Dutch, Robertson,

<sup>1</sup> Autobiography of Dr Carlyle, p. 214.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 309.

<sup>3</sup> See Dr William Pitcairn's Life in the Dysart Branch.

Home, &c., I need not say that we were gay and jovial. . . . Bob Keith sang all his ludicrous songs and repeated all his comic verses, and gave us a foretaste of that delightful company which he continued to be to the end of his days. His cousin, Charles Dalrymple, was only behind him in humorous description and naïve remark.<sup>1</sup>

After we had left Sheffield, where we might have got money, we discovered that we were like to run short, for Dr Robertson, unlike his usual prudence, had only put two guineas in his pocket, trusting to the full purse of his cousin, James Adam, who had taken no more than he computed would pay the fourth part of our expense. Home and I had done the same. I was treasurer, and at Leeds, I believe, I demanded a contribution, when it was found that, by Robertson's deficiency and our purchasing some goods at Birmingham with the common stock, I was sensible we would run out before we came to Newcastle. This led us to inferior inns, which cost us as dear for much inferior entertainment. . . .

After leaving Durham, we were obliged to halt at an inn to give our horses a little corn, for we had been four hours on horseback, and we had nine miles to Newcastle. Besides corn to five horses, and a bottle of porter to our man Anthony, I had just two shillings remaining; but I could only spare one of them, for we had turnpikes to pay, and so called for a pint of port, which, mixed with a quart of water, made a good drink for each of us. Our horses and their riders being both jaded, it was ten o'clock before we arrived at Newcastle: there we got an excellent supper, &c., and a good night's sleep. I sent for Jack Widdrington when at breakfast, who immediately gave us what money we wanted; and we, who had been so penurious for three days, became suddenly extravagant. Adam bought a £20 horse, and the rest of us what trinkets we thought we wanted—Robertson for his wife and children at Gladsmuir, and Home and I for the children at Polwarth manse. . . .

It was very warm weather in May, and we rode in the hottest of the day: we seldom got on horseback before ten o'clock, for there was no getting Robertson and Home to bed, and Jamie Adam could not get up, and had, besides, a very tedious toilet.<sup>2</sup>

There is something very refreshing in this description of their travels.

One can well believe what a relief it must have been to them to throw off their cares, and have a really free and happy time. In those days, too, there was a spice of

<sup>1</sup> Autobiography of Dr Carlyle, p. 350.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., pp. 373-376.

danger in a journey from Scotland to London, from highwaymen, &c., which no doubt lent an added zest to their adventures.

One can almost see them jogging on together, full of frolic and fun, and enjoying every inch of the way; even their money falling short hardly disturbed them in the least; everything was right, and any little *contretemps* was only laughed at, and did not ruffle their equanimity in the least.

No doubt that Dr Robertson would be in good spirits on account of his 'History of Scotland' being taken by Messrs Strahan & Co. The 'History of Scotland' came out, and was a great success: before a month was over another edition was printed.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER *of* Mr WALTER STRAHAN *to*  
Dr ROBERTSON, on his 'History of Scotland.'

I DON'T remember to have heard any book so universally approved by the best judges, for what are sold yet have been only to such. The people in the country know nothing of it unless from the advertisements, and 'A History of Scotland' is no very enticing title. But many of the first distinction in town have perused it with great satisfaction. They wonder how a Scotch parson, and one who had never been out of Scotland, could be able to write in so correct, so clear, so manly, and so nervous a style. The Speaker of the House of Commons in particular prefers the style to that of Bolingbroke, and everybody I have either seen or heard of thinks it one of the very best performances that has been exhibited for many years.—I rejoice in your good fortune, and am, with much esteem and sincerity, dear Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

WILL. STRAHAN.

*From the SAME.*

The fourteenth edition of your Scotland will be published in the course of the winter, during which it is our intention to advertise all your works strongly in all the papers.

EXTRACT *of* Sir GILBERT ELLIOT'S LETTER *to* Dr ROBERTSON.

ADMIRALTY, *January 20th, 1759.*

DEAR SIR,—Millar has just sent me the 'History of Scotland.' You could have sent me no present which on its own account I should have esteemed so much; but you have greatly enhanced its

value by allowing me to accept it as a memorial and testimony of a friendship which I have long cultivated with equal satisfaction and sincerity. I am no stranger to your book, though your copy is but just put into my hands: David Hume so far indulged my impatience as to allow me to carry to the country, during the holidays, the loose sheets which he happened to have by him. In that condition I read it quite through with the greatest satisfaction, and in much less time than I ever employed on any portion of history of the same length. I had certainly neither leisure nor inclination to exercise the function of a Critic: carried along with the stream of the narration, I only felt, when I came to the conclusion, that you had greatly exceeded the expectations I had formed, though I do assure you these were not a little sanguine. If, upon a more deliberate perusal, I discover any blemish, I shall point it out without any scruple: at present it seems to me that you have rendered the period you treat of as interesting as any part of our British story; the views you open of policy, manners, and religion are ingenious, solid, and deep. Your work will certainly be ranked in the highest historical class; and for my own part, I think it besides a composition of uncommon genius and eloquence. I was afraid you might have been interrupted by the Reformation, but I find it much otherwise; you treat it with great propriety, and, in my opinion, with sufficient freedom. No revolution, whether civil or religious, can be accomplished without that degree of ardour and passion which, in a later age, will be matter of ridicule to men who do not feel the occasion, and enter into the spirit of the times. But I must not get into dissertations.—I hope you will ever believe me, with great regard, dear Sir, Your most obedient and faithful Servant,

GILB. ELLIOT.

Mr HORACE WALPOLE to Dr W. ROBERTSON.

HAVING finished [says Mr Walpole] the first volume, and made a little progress in the second, I cannot stay till I have finished the latter to tell you how exceedingly I admire the work. Your modesty will make you perhaps suppose these are words of compliment; but as I can give you very good reasons for my approbation, you may believe that I no more flatter your performance than I have read it superficially, hastily, or carelessly.

The style is most pure, proper, and equal; is very natural and easy, except now and then where, as I may justly call it, you are forced to *translate* from bad writers. You will agree with me, sir, that an historian who writes from other authorities cannot possibly always have as flowing a style as an author whose narrative is dictated from his own knowledge. Your perspicuity is most



beautiful, your relation always interesting, never languid ; and you have very extraordinarily united two merits very difficult to be reconciled : I mean that, though you have formed your history into pieces of information, each of which would make a separate memoir, yet the whole is hurried on into one uninterrupted story. I assure you I value myself on the first distinction, especially as Mr Charles Townshend made the same remark. You have preferred the gravity of history without any formality, and you have at the same time avoided what I am now running into, antithesis and conceit. In short, sir, I don't know where or what history is written with more excellences ;—and when I say this, you may be sure I do not forget your impartiality. But, sir, I will not wound your bashfulness with more encomiums ; yet the public will force you to hear them. I never knew justice so rapidly paid to a work of so deep and serious a kind ; for deep it is, and it must be deep sense that could penetrate so far into human nature, considering how little you have been conversant with the world.

EXTRACT OF LETTER *from* DAVID HUME *to* Dr ROBERTSON.

Dr Douglas told me yesterday that he had seen the Bishop of Norwich, who had just bought the book from the high commendations he heard of it from Mr Legge. Mallet told me that Lord Mansfield is at a loss whether he shall most esteem the matter or the style. Elliot told me, that being in company with George Grenville, that gentleman was speaking loud in the same key. Our friend pretended ignorance ; said he knew the Author, and if he thought the book good for any thing, would send for it and read it. Send for it by all means (said Mr Grenville) ; you have not read a better book of a long time. But, said Elliot, I suppose, although the matter may be tolerable, as the Author was never on this side of the Tweed till he wrote it, it must be very barbarous in the expression. By no means, cried Mr Grenville ; had the Author lived all his life in London, and in the best company, he could not have expressed himself with greater elegance and purity. Lord Lyttelton seems to think that since the time of St Paul there scarce has been a better writer than Dr Robertson. Mr Walpole triumphs in the success of his favourites the Scotch, &c.

Dr John Blair, in a letter dated from London, observes to Dr Robertson that “the only general objection to his work was founded on his tenderness for Queen Mary.” “Lord Chesterfield” (says he), “though he approves much

of your History, told me that he finds this to be a bias which no Scotchman can get the better of."

Among the various circumstances that distinguish Dr Robertson's genius and taste in the execution of this work, the address with which he interweaves the personal history of the Queen with the general events he records is not the least remarkable.

During the time that the 'History of Scotland' was in the press, Dr Robertson removed with his family from Glads-muir to Edinburgh, in consequence of a presentation which he had received to one of the churches there. His pre-ferments now multiplied rapidly. In 1759 he was appointed Chaplain of Stirling Castle; in 1761, one of his Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary for Scotland; and in 1762 he was chosen Principal of the Edinburgh University. Two years afterwards, the office of King's Historiographer for Scotland (with a salary of two hundred pounds a-year) was revived in his favour.

After much deliberation, Dr Robertson resolved to undertake the History of Charles V.—which proved even a greater success than his 'History of Scotland.'

EXTRACT *from* HORACE WALPOLE'S LETTER *to* Dr ROBERTSON  
on the History of Charles V.

In short, sir, I have not power to make you what you ought to be, a Minister of State—but I will do all I can, I will stimulate you to continue writing, and I shall do it without presumption.

With regard to the History of Charles V., it is a magnificent subject, and worthy of you. It is more—it is fit for you; for you have shown that you can write on ticklish subjects with the utmost discretion, and on subjects of religious party with temper and impartiality.

EXTRACT *from* Mr HUME'S LETTER *to* Dr ROBERTSON  
regarding his History of Charles V.

I GOT yesterday from Strahan about thirty sheets of your History to be sent over to Suard, and last night and this morning have run them over with great avidity. I could not deny myself the satisfaction (which I hope also will not displease you) of expressing

presently my extreme approbation of them. To say only they are well written is far too faint an expression, and much inferior to the sentiments I feel: they are composed with nobleness, with dignity, with elegance, and with judgment, to which there are few equals. They even excel, and, I think, in a sensible degree, your 'History of Scotland.' I propose to myself great pleasure in being the only man in England, during some months, who will be in the situation of doing you justice, after which you may certainly expect that my voice will be drowned in that of the public.

Lord Lyttelton was another correspondent with whom Dr Robertson had occasional communications. The first of his letters was an acknowledgment to him for a present of the History of Charles V.

I don't wonder that your sense of the public expectation gives you some apprehensions; but I know that the Historian of Mary Queen of Scots cannot fail to do justice to any great subject; and no greater can be found in the records of mankind than this you have now chosen. Go on, dear sir, to enrich the English language with more tracts of modern History. We have nothing good in that way, except what relates to the island of Great Britain. You have talents and youth enough to undertake the agreeable and useful task of giving us all the lives of the most illustrious Princes who have flourished since the age of Charles V. in every part of the world, and comparing them together, as Plutarch has done the most celebrated heroes of Greece and Rome.

Voltaire writes, 26th February 1770, from the Chateau de Ferney:—

Il y a quatre jours que j'ai reçu le beau présent dont vous m'avez honoré. Je le lis malgré les fluxions horribles qui me font craindre de perdre entièrement les yeux. Il me fait oublier tous mes maux. C'est à vous et à M. Hume qu'il appartient d'écrire l'Histoire. Vous êtes éloquent, savant, et impartial. Je me joins à l'Europe pour vous estimer.

In a letter from Lord Cathcart to Dr Robertson, dated 20th of July 1761, he says:—

Lord Bute told me the King's thoughts, as well as his own, with respect to your 'History of Scotland,' and a wish his Majesty had expressed to see a History of England by your pen. His lordship assured me every source of information which Government can command would be opened to you; and that great, laborious, and

extensive as the work must be, he would take care your encouragement should be proportioned to it.

This history, although the project was deliberated upon with serious consideration, was never written.

In 1769 Dr Carlyle went to London again, and he had an interesting conversation there with Lord Mansfield, who at the time was thrilling every one with his wonderful eloquence and learning in his speeches on the great Douglas Cause in the House of Lords:—

On the 27th I attended the House of Peers on the Douglas Cause. The Duke of Buccleuch had promised to carry me down to the House; but as I was going into Grosvenor Square to meet him at ten o'clock, I met the Duke of Montague, who was coming from his house, and took me into his chariot, saying that the Duke of B. was not yet ready. . . . The Duke of Bedford spoke low, but not half an hour. The Chancellor and Lord Mansfield united on the side of Douglas; each of them spoke above an hour. . . . Lord Mansfield, overcome with heat, was about to faint in the middle of his speech, and was obliged to stop. The side-doors were immediately thrown open, and the Chancellor rushing out, returned soon with a servant, who followed him with a bottle and glasses. Lord Mansfield drank two glasses of the wine, and after some time revived, and proceeded in his speech. We, who had no wine, were nearly as much recruited by the fresh air which rushed in at the open doors as his lordship by the wine. . . .

In the course of my operations about the window-tax, I had frequently short interviews with Lord Mansfield. One day he sent for me to breakfast, when I had a long conversation with him on various subjects. Amongst others, he talked of Hume and Robertson's Histories, and said that though they had pleased and instructed him much, and though he could point out few or no faults in them, yet, when he was reading their books, he did not think he was reading English: could I account to him how that happened? I answered that the same objection had not occurred to me, who was a Scotchman bred as well as born; but that I had a solution to it, which I would submit to his lordship. It was, that to every man bred in Scotland the English language was in some respects a foreign tongue, the precise value and force of whose words and phrases he did not understand, and therefore was continually endeavouring to word his expressions by additional epithets or circumlocutions, which made his writings appear both stiff and redundant.



With this solution his lordship appeared entirely satisfied. By this time he perfectly understood the nature of our claim to exemption from the window-tax, and promised me his aid, and suggested some new arguments in our favour.

Mr Gibbon made his appearance as an historian a few months before Mr Hume's death, and began a correspondence with Dr Robertson the year following. From Paris, 14th July 1777, in acknowledgment of a present of Dr Robertson's book, he writes:—

When I ventured to assume the character of historian, the first, the most natural, but at the same time the most ambitious, wish which I entertained was to deserve the approbation of Dr Robertson and Mr Hume, two names which friendship united, and which posterity will never separate. I shall not therefore attempt to dissemble, though I cannot easily express the honest pleasure which I received from your obliging letter, as well as from the intelligence of your most valuable present. The satisfaction which I should otherwise have enjoyed in common with the public will now be heightened by a sentiment of a more personal and flattering nature; and I shall often whisper to myself that I have in some degree obtained the esteem of the writer whom I admire.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER written by the great LORD MANSFIELD  
to Dr W. ROBERTSON on his *History of America*.

I DELAYED returning you my warmest acknowledgments for your most valuable present till I could say that I have enjoyed it. Since my return from the circuit I have read it with infinite pleasure. It is inferior to none of your works, which is saying a great deal. No man will now doubt but that you have done judiciously in making this an entire separate work, and detaching it from the general History. Your account of the science of Navigation and Naval discovery is admirable, and equal to any Historical Map of the kind. If I knew a pen equal to it, I would advise the continuation down to the next arrival of Captain Cook. Nothing could be more entertaining or more instructive. It is curious that all great discoveries are made, as it were, by accident, when men are searching for something else. I learn from you that Columbus did not as a philosopher demonstrate to himself that there must be such a portion of the earth as America is, but that, meaning to go to the East Indies, he stumbled on the West. It is a most interesting speculation to consider how little political wisdom had to do,

and how much has arisen from chance, in the peopling, government, laws, and constitution of the New World.

Lord Chesterfield's judgment with respect to Dr Robertson was this. He says:—

There is a History lately come out of the reign of Mary Queen of Scots, and her son King James, written by one Robertson, a Scotchman, which, for clearness, purity, and dignity, I will not scruple to compare with the best historians extant, not excepting Davila, Guicciardini, and perhaps Livy.

Dr Robertson received many honours from foreign Academies, including the Academy of History at Madrid in 1781. He was also elected one of the foreign members of the Academy of Science at Padua; and in 1783 one of the foreign members of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St Petersburg.

He was now honoured with a very flattering distinction, which was conveyed to him by his friend Dr Rogerson in a letter, from which the following extract is taken:—

ST PETERSBURG.

YOUR History of America was received and perused by Her Imperial Majesty with singular marks of approbation. All your historical productions have been ever favourite parts of her reading. Not long ago, doing me the honour to converse with me upon historical composition, she mentioned you with particular distinction, and with much admiration of that sagacity and discernment displayed by you in painting the human mind and character, as diversified by the various causes that operated upon it, in those eras and states of society on which your subject led you to treat. She assigned you the place of first model in that species of composition. As to the History of Charles V. she was pleased to add, *c'est le compagnon constant de tous mes voyages ; je ne me lasse jamais à le lire, & particulièrement le premier volume.*

Her Majesty then presented a very handsome gold enamelled snuff-box, richly set with diamonds, ordering me to transmit it to you, and to desire your acceptance of it as a mark of her esteem, observing, at the same time, most graciously that a person whose labours had afforded her so much satisfaction merited some attention from her.

The active part which Dr Robertson took in the foundation of the Royal Society of Edinburgh is well known. The first idea of this Society, and of the plan adopted in its formation, was suggested by him; and without his powerful co-operation, there is little probability that the design would ever have been carried into effect.

In consequence of his various engagements, which arose from his professional duties, and from the interest which he was led to take, both by his official and his public spirit, in the literary or the patriotic undertakings of others, a considerable portion of Dr Robertson's leisure was devoted to conversation and society. No man enjoyed these with more relish; and few have possessed the same talents to add to their attractions.

A rich stock of miscellaneous information, acquired from books, and from an extensive intercourse with the world, together with a perfect acquaintance at all times with the topics of the day, and the soundest sagacity and good sense applied to the occurrences of common life, rendered him the most agreeable and instructive of companions. He seldom aimed at wit; but, with his intimate friends, he often indulged a sportive and fanciful species of humour. He delighted in good-natured anecdotes of his acquaintance, and added powerfully to their effect by his own enjoyment in relating them. He was, in a remarkable degree, susceptible of the ludicrous: but on no occasion did he forget the dignity of his character, or the decorum of his profession; nor did he ever lose sight of that classical taste which adorned his compositions. In the company of strangers he increased his exertions to amuse and to inform; and the splendid variety of his conversation was commonly the chief circumstance on which they dwelt in enumerating his talents,—and yet it was when surrounded by his family or with his intimate friends that he showed to the greatest advantage.

His health began apparently to decline in the end of the year 1791. Till then it had been more uniformly good than might have been expected from his studious habits;

but about this period he suddenly discovered strong symptoms of jaundice, which gradually undermined his constitution, and terminated at length in a lingering and fatal illness. He had the prospect of death long before him—a prospect deeply afflicting to his family and his friends, but of which, without any visible abatement in his spirits, he happily availed himself to adorn the doctrines which he had long taught, by an example of fortitude and of Christian resignation. In the concluding stage of his illness he removed from Edinburgh to Grange House in the neighbourhood, where he had the advantage of better air and a more quiet situation, and, what he valued more than most men, the pleasure of rural objects and of a beautiful landscape. While he was able to walk abroad, he commonly passed a part of the day in a small garden, enjoying the simple gratifications it afforded with all his wonted relish. His daily visits to the fruit-trees (which were then in blossom), and the smile with which he more than once contrasted the interest he took in their progress with the event which was to happen before their maturity, was very pathetic.

Dr Carlyle writes to a friend:—

William Robertson you will see no more,—he is dying. He was calm and collected, and even placid and gay. My poor wife had a desire to see him, and went on purpose; but when she saw him, from a window, leaning on his daughter, with his tottering frame, and directing the gardener how to dress some flower-beds, her sensibility threw her into a paroxysm of grief: she fled upstairs to Mrs Russell and could not see him. His house, for three weeks before he died, was really an anticipation of heaven.

He died on the 11th of June, in the seventy-first year of his age.

Nothing was wanting to render his happiness perfect while he lived; and at his death he had the satisfaction to leave, in prosperous circumstances, a numerous family, united to each other and their excellent mother by the tenderest affection.



In concluding this life of Dr Robertson, I will here quote from the interesting paper written by Dugald Stewart after his death, commenting on the value of his historical researches. He says:—

In this respect he has certainly not been surpassed by any writer of the present times ; nor would it perhaps be easy to name another who has united to so luminous an arrangement of his materials, and such masterly skill in adorning them, an equal degree of industry and exactness in tracing them to their original sources. After a minute examination of the most disputed passages of his first performance, a late author has ventured to pronounce him “the most faithful of Historians”; and I have no doubt that this honourable appellation will be sanctioned by those who shall examine his other works with the same acuteness, accuracy, and candour.

“The characteristic of Dr Robertson’s eloquence was *persuasion*—mild, rational, and conciliating, yet manly and dignified. He was the acknowledged head of his party, and generally spoke last in the debate—resuming the arguments on both sides with such perspicuity of arrangement and expression, such respect to his antagonists, and such an air of candour and earnestness in everything he said, that he often united the suffrages of the House in favour of the conclusions he wished to establish.

“His assiduous attention, amidst his various occupations, to the minutest duties of his office as head of the University was very great—duties which nothing but his habits of arrangement and the severest economy of his time could have enabled him to discharge with so little appearance of hurry or inconvenience. The valuable accession of books which the public library received while under his administration was chiefly owing to his prudent and exact application of the very slender funds appropriated to that establishment. The various societies, both literary and medical, which in Edinburgh have long contributed so essentially to the improvement of the rising generation, were most of them either planned or reformed under his

direction and patronage; and if, as a seat of learning, Edinburgh has of late more than formerly attracted the notice of the world, much must be ascribed to the influence of his example and to the lustre of his name. The good sense, temper, and address with which he presided for thirty years in the University meetings were attended with effects no less essential to its prosperity, and are attested by a fact which is perhaps without a parallel in the annals of any other literary community—that during the whole of that period there did not occur a single question which was not terminated by a unanimous decision.”<sup>1</sup>

Dr Ebenezer Erskine says of him: “He could feel an injury, and yet bridle his passion; was grave, not sullen; steady, not obstinate; friendly, not officious; prudent and cautious, not timid.” The praise is liberal, and it is expressed with the cordial warmth of friendship; but it comes from one who had the best opportunity of knowing the truth, as he had enjoyed Dr Robertson’s intimacy from his childhood, and was afterwards, for more than twenty years, his colleague in the same church.

In point of stature Dr Robertson was rather above the middle size; and though he did not convey the idea of much activity, still he had vigour of body, and a healthful constitution. His features were regular and manly, and his eye spoke at once good sense and good humour. He appeared to greatest advantage in his complete clerical dress, and was more remarkable for gravity and dignity, than for ease or grace in private society. His portrait was painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds. At the request of his colleagues, who were anxious to have some memorial of him placed in the Public Library, he sat again, a few months before his death, to Sir Henry Raeburn; at a time when his altered and sickly aspect rendered the task of the artist peculiarly difficult. The picture, however, is worthy in every respect of Raeburn’s high and deserved reputation.

<sup>1</sup> Dugald Stewart’s Memoir.

In the Greyfriars' Churchyard a small but beautiful monument is placed on the ground where the remains of Dr Robertson, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, were deposited. It is said to have been built from a design of the late Robert Adam, Esq., architect, and is very similar to that which he erected over the burying-ground of his own father.

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

## DR ROBERTSON'S DESCENDANTS.

PRINCIPAL ROBERTSON left three sons and two daughters. Mrs Robertson survived her husband for nearly eight years, and died in March 1801. Of his sons, the eldest, William, was educated for the profession of the law, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates in 1775, and, three years afterwards, was elected Procurator for the Church of Scotland. In 1805 he was nominated a judge of the Court of Session, on which occasion he assumed the title of Lord Robertson. He retired from the bench in 1826, and died in 1835, leaving no family. He had been twice married, first to Miss Boyd, sister of Mrs Robertson Williamson of Lawers, Perthshire, wife of the late Lord Balgray, one of the Senators of the College of Justice; and, secondly, to Miss Cockburn of Rochester, County of Berwick.

Lord Robertson was "an eminent lawyer at the Scotch bar," says Dugald Stewart, and "has been only prevented by the engagements of an active profession from sustaining his father's literary fame."

Dr Robertson's two younger sons, both of whom very early embraced a military life, carried his vigour and enterprise into a different career of ambition. The one, repeatedly mentioned with distinction in the history of Lord Cornwallis's military operations in India, attained the rank of General, and died unmarried at Edinburgh in 1845. The other was Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment serving in Ceylon, and Deputy Adjutant-General of his Majesty's forces in that island. He married, in 1799, Margaret Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart, sister and heiress



of Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, Governor of Tobago, who died in 1804. On the death of Colonel Robertson Macdonald (for he assumed his wife's surname) in 1845, he was succeeded by his eldest son, William Robertson of Kinlochmoidart, grandson of the Principal, lineal representative of the Robertsons, and one of the representatives of the Pitcairns of Dreghorn.

Of Dr Robertson's two daughters, Mary, the eldest, became the wife, in 1785, of Patrick Brydone, Esquire, of Lennel (rented from Lord Haddington), in the parish of Coldstream. This marriage between his eldest daughter and Mr Brydone, the celebrated traveller, who was well known for his scientific pursuits, as well as distinguished for his charming manners and kindness of disposition, had contributed materially to her father's happiness, for he liked to pass a few weeks in the summer or autumn at the delightful home of Lennel. Mr Brydone was educated at the University of Edinburgh, and was very talented. The natural bent of his tastes was scientific, and although he "was neither a surgeon nor physician, he applied himself to the study of medicine and Natural Philosophy." In November 1757 he communicated to Dr Whytt (Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine) of Edinburgh an account of a cure of palsy which he had effected by means of electricity. Mr Brydone also, in after-life, contributed various articles on electricity and meteorology to the Royal Society of London, of which he was a Fellow in 1772.<sup>1</sup>

#### SIR WALTER SCOTT ON LENNEL.

"Where Lennel's convent closed their march ;  
 (There now is left but one frail arch,  
     Yet mourn thou not its cells ;  
 Our time a fair exchange has made ;  
 Hard by, in hospitable shade,  
     A reverend pilgrim dwells,  
 Well worth the whole Bernardine brood,  
 That e'er wore sandal, frock, or hood.)"

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<sup>1</sup> Dr Murray's Biographical Annals.

Mr Brydone, after a long life, honourably spent, died in June 1818, at the venerable age of eighty-two.

Three daughters survived their father; one of them (Mary) became the wife of Gilbert, second Lord Minto, and was the mother of five sons—1, William Hugh, third Earl of Minto; 2, Right Hon. Henry George; 3, Charles Gilbert John Brydone; 4, George Francis Stewart; 5, Gilbert; and five daughters—1, Mary Elizabeth; 2, Frances Anne Maria; 3, Charlotte Mary; 4, Elizabeth Amelia Jane; 5, Harriet Ann Gertrude. The portrait in this book is of Lady Minto and her two children, which the present Lord Minto kindly gave permission to be copied from his picture at Minto House. Lady Minto is said to have had a very beautiful character. Her charming portrait is by Hayter, R.A. The boy taken with her was Col. the Hon. Gilbert Elliot of the Rifle Brigade, who saw a good deal of service in the Kaffir war and in the Crimea; and the little girl is the Lady Harriet Elliot, who died unmarried about 1855.

Ralph, second Baron Dunfermline, married, September the 18th, 1838, Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Gilbert, second Earl of Minto, and Mary Brydone his wife. She died April the 10th, 1874. The barony became extinct in 1868. They left only one child, Mary Catherine Elizabeth, who married, October the 27th, 1876, Lieutenant-Colonel John Mowbray Trotter, late Bengal Staff Corps, son of Archibald Trotter of Dreghorn, Mid-Lothian, and now of Colinton House, Colinton.

The modern house of Colinton, at present inhabited by Colonel Trotter, stands on a beautiful eminence overhanging the village of Colinton, and was built by the first Sir William Forbes, who unfortunately died just as it neared completion in 1806. It then became the residence of Lord Dunfermline, who was some years Speaker in the House of Commons. He was son of the famous General Sir Ralph Abercrombie. An amusing tale is attached to the beechen avenue that leads to the village.

Thither one pleasant Sabbath morning before church-



By Hayter, R.A

THE SECOND COUNTESS OF MINTO,  
AND HER CHILDREN.





time had sauntered Lord Dunfermline in his smoking-cap and dressing-gown, and prone on the path before him lay a tipsy Edinburgh tailor, clad in orthodox black, who raised himself from the gutter upon his elbow, and reproachfully addressed the statesman: "Do ye no think shame, desecratin' the Sawbath wi' sic claes?"<sup>1</sup>

He was succeeded by his son, also Lord Dunfermline, Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of the Netherlands, who was father to the Hon. Mrs Trotter.

Lady Frances Anna Maria Elliot, daughter of Gilbert, second Earl of Minto, and Mary Brydone, married the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, first Earl Russell, and third son of John, sixth Duke of Bedford. He was born on the 19th of August 1792. Lady Frances was his second wife; he married her in July 1841; they had three sons: 1, John, Viscount Amberley, who married Louisa, daughter of Lord Stanley, Alderley; 2, George Gilbert William; 3, Francis Albert Rollo, born 11th of July 1849, married, firstly, to Alice, daughter of Thomas Godsey of Baldeston Hall, Nottingham, and by her has one son, Arthur John Godsey, born 1866. He married, secondly, Gertrude Ellen Cornelia, eldest daughter of Henry Joachim of Highland, Haslemere, and has by her, John Albert, born 1895; and Margaret Frances, born 1894.

Lady Charlotte Mary Elliot married, 9th Oct. 1855, Melville Portal, Esq. of Laverstoke, Hants. Lady Elizabeth Amelia Jane Elliot married, 29th Nov. 1848, Colonel Romilly. Lady Harriet Gertrude Elliot died unmarried, 9th Feb. 1855.

Their other sons were Henry George Elliot, Ambassador; Admiral Charles Gilbert Brydone Elliot, C.B.; George Francis Stewart Elliot; and Colonel Gilbert Elliot, who was in the Scotch Fusilier Guards. The present Earl of Minto is grandson of Mary Brydone; he was born on the 9th July 1845. He has recently returned from his post as Governor-General of Canada, which high position he has filled with such energy, tact, and judgment that he

<sup>1</sup> History of Colinton, by Mr Shankie.

has called forth the warmest eulogiums not only from the Canadians, but also from the members of the Government.

Another daughter of Mr Brydone (Elizabeth) was married to her relative, Admiral Sir Charles Adam of Blairadam, whose son was W. P. Adam of Blairadam, M.P., and represented the County of Kinross in Parliament; while the third daughter, Williamina, became the wife of the very Rev. Dr Gilbert Elliot, Dean of Bristol.

Eleanor, the youngest daughter of Dr Robertson, was married in 1778 to John Russell, Esq., Clerk to the Signet. She survived her husband, and her eldest son, Mr John Russell, died in 1864 at the great age of eighty-two. We now come briefly to speak of Dr Robertson's sisters and only brother. The eldest sister, Mary, granddaughter of David Pitcairn of Dreghorn, became the wife of the Rev. James Syme, minister of Alloa. Previously to her marriage, she superintended the household affairs of her brother, in the manse of Gladsmuir. Lord Brougham remarks: "In her sound judgment he [Dr Robertson] always had the greatest confidence, for he knew that to great beauty she added a calm and firm temper, inherited from her mother, but with greater sweetness of disposition." The Rev. Mr Morren characterises her as "a woman of a very superior mind"; and another says that "she was a person of very wonderful talents."

Her husband, Mr Syme, was the eldest son of the Rev. Walter Syme, minister of Tullynessle, Aberdeenshire, and was ordained at Alloa in November 1750: he died in January 1753, after a short incumbency of little more than two years. He left his widow, who survived him for upwards of half a century, and died in April 1803, and an only child, Eleanor, who was married on the 22nd May 1777 to Henry Brougham, younger of Brougham Hall. They had five children, of whom Henry, Lord Brougham, was the eldest, and great-great-grandson of Mr and Mrs Pit-

cairn of Dreghorn. The family of Brougham is of Saxon descent, and derives its surname from Burgham, afterwards called Brougham, a parish in Westmoreland.

Mr Brougham *d.* 13th February 1810, aged sixty-eight; and his widow, 31st December 1839, aged eighty-nine. He was succeeded in his estates in Westmoreland and Cumberland by his son and heir, Henry Brougham. This eminent statesman, orator, philanthropist, philosopher, and writer was born in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, 19th September 1778, and was educated at the High School and University of Edinburgh. He was admitted a Scotch Advocate in 1800, and was called to the English bar in 1808.<sup>1</sup> He was appointed Attorney-General to Queen Caroline in April 1820, and received a patent of precedence 1827. He was successively M.P. for Camelford, Winchelsea, Knaresborough, and Yorkshire.

He was Lord Chancellor from 1830 to 1834, and was, 22nd November 1830, created Baron Brougham and Vaux of Brougham, Co. Westmoreland; he obtained another patent, dated 22nd March 1860, giving him the title of Baron Brougham and Vaux of Brougham, Co. Westmoreland, and of Highland Castle, Co. Cumberland, with limitation, in default of male issue, to his brother, William Brougham, Esq., and the heirs-male of his body. He married, first, April 1819, Mary Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas, fourth son of Sir Robert Eden, Bart. of West Auckland, Co. Durham, niece of the first Lords Auckland and Henley, and widow of John Spalding, Esq. of the Homes, Scotland, by whom (who died 12th January 1865) he had issue, two daughters, Sarah Eleanor, born 1820, died an infant, and Eleanor Louisa, born October 1822, died 30th November 1839.

He was heir-general and representative of a branch of the ancient and noble house of Vaux.

He died at Cannes, France, 7th May 1868, and was succeeded by his brother William, second Lord Brougham and Vaux.

<sup>1</sup> Burke's Peerage, 1869.

*Extract from a LETTER of Mr CREEVEY on Lord Brougham's Speech vindicating the Innocence of Queen Caroline.*<sup>1</sup>

*January 19th, 1821.*

I dined with [Lord] Brougham on Wednesday, but had not much good of him, as we were not alone.

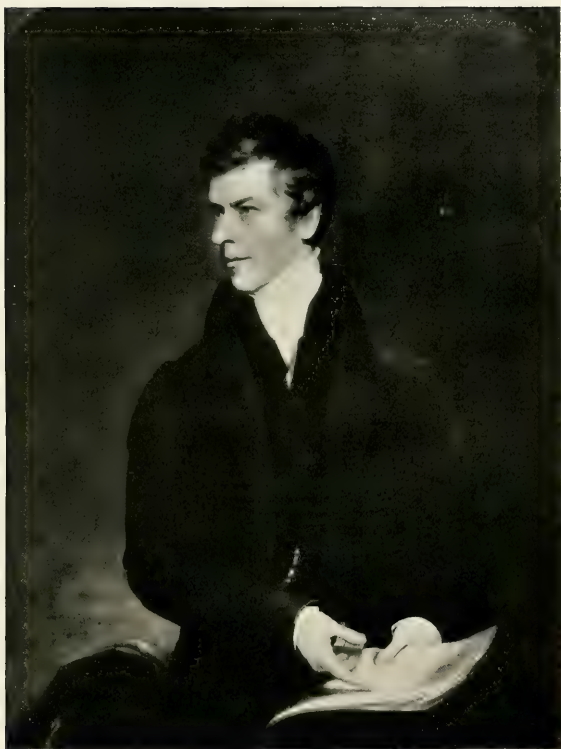
Yesterday I met Brougham in the streets, and had a long walk with him, and found him much improved in temper—all sunshine, in fact. He says he never saw any one so improved as the Queen; that she is really very entertaining, particularly upon the subject of her travels. He is to manage a dinner for me there at an early date, and at her early hour, which is 3. Meantime, her establishment is on the stocks and is getting on—the Duke of Roxburgh Grand Chamberlain, a young nobleman of 86, so that the breath of scandal can never touch this appointment. He is, however, a very excellent old man, and a Whig, and is worth at least £50,000 per annum. Poor Romilly gained him his estate, and had the highest possible opinion of him. The poor old fellow declined at first, and indeed now has consented with reluctance. It seems he married for the first time 5 or 6 years ago, and has children. He asked Brougham, therefore, if her Majesty is fond of children, and if he may bring his little ones from Scotland to present to her; and then he says he will only undertake the office of Chamberlain upon condition that he [Brougham] will be guardian to the Marquis of Bowmont, aged 4 years and a half—the Duke's son. This condition, however, is a secret. Bruffam affected to be squeamish as to accepting this trust, but the job is done.

On 5th February 1821, Brougham redeemed his pledge to testify publicly on his honour to his belief in the innocence of Queen Caroline. He concluded as follows a speech on Lord Tavistock's motion of want of confidence in Ministers because of their conduct of the proceedings against the Queen. "It is necessary, Sir, for me, with the seriousness and sincerity which it may be permitted to a man upon the most solemn occasions to express, to assert, what I do now assert, in the face of this House, that if, instead of an advocate, I had been sitting as a judge at another tribunal, I should have been found among the number of those who, laying their hands upon their hearts, conscientiously pronounced her Majesty 'Not guilty.' For the truth of this assertion I desire to tender every pledge that may be most valued and most sacred. I wish to make it in every form which may be deemed most solemn and most binding; and if I believe it not, as I now advance it, I here imprecate on myself every curse which is most horrid and most penal."

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<sup>1</sup> Copied by the kind permission of Sir Herbert Maxwell and John Murray, Esq.





*Painted by James Lonsdale.*

*Emery Walker Photo.*

LORD BROUGHAM AND VAUX.

Lord Chancellor.

*b.* 1778.

*d.* 1868.



Mr CREEVEY to MISS ORD.<sup>1</sup>

CANTLEY, *August 8th, 1821.*

*On the Death of Queen Caroline.*

LORD BROUGHAM was here for a very short time on Sunday night, having left London at six on Saturday evening, travelled all night, and being obliged to go to York that night (40 miles) so as to be ready for the assizes in the morning.

The Queen's will and certain deeds had been got all ready by Friday night, according to her own instructions. Brougham asked her if it was her pleasure then to execute them, to which she said, "Yes, Mr Brougham; where is Mr Denman?" in the tone of voice of a person in perfect health. Denman then opened the curtain of her bed, there being likewise Lushington, Wilde, and two Proctors from the Commons. The will and papers being read to her, she put her hand out of bed and signed her name four different times in the steadiest manner possible; in doing so she said with great firmness: "I am going to die, Mr Brougham; but it does not signify." Brougham said, "Your Majesty's physicians are quite of a different opinion." "Ah," she said, "I know better than them. I tell you I shall die, but I don't mind it."

VISCOUNT HOOD to HENRY BROUGHAM, M.P.<sup>2</sup>

BRANDENBURGH HOUSE, *August 8th, 1821.*

. . . The melancholy event took place at 25 minutes past 10 o'clock last night, when our dear Queen breathed her last. Her Majesty has quitted a scene of uninterrupted persecution, and for herself I think her death is not to be regretted. She died in peace with all her enemies. "Je ne mourrai sans douleur, mais je mourrai sans regret," was frequently expressed by her Majesty. I never beheld a firmer mind, or any one with less feelings at the thought of dying, which she spoke of without the least agitation; and at different periods of her illness, even to very few hours of her dissolution, arranged her worldly concerns.

It is sad that Lord Brougham should, notwithstanding his splendid talents, have lowered a noble reputation by his greed of power and place, towards the end of his life.

One of Dr Robertson's sisters was married to Mr James Cunningham, who inherited Hyndhope from his father (a

<sup>1</sup> The Creevey papers.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

small estate in Yarrow). His son, Alexander Cunningham, W.S., is well known as "the principal Edinburgh friend" of Robert Burns. Another son, William, was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Honourable East India Company's service, and was present at the siege of Seringapatam. He was for several years on the Duke of Wellington's staff in India: the Duke thought highly of him. He died at No. 10 Hope Street, Edinburgh, on the 20th April 1851.

A fourth sister of Dr Robertson married a Mr Bruce. Another married Archibald Hope, Secretary to the Bank of Scotland. The youngest sister, Eleanor, died unmarried in 1816.

Such were the numerous and distinguished descendants of "Mr David Pitcairn of Dreghorn" and of "Mary Anderson, his wife." Dr Murray, the author of the 'Annals of Colinton,' says:—

"Perhaps no private gentleman (though of aristocratic descent, and not a large landowner) was ever the progenitor of so many persons remarkable in themselves, or who, by intermarriages, formed such high connections as to rank, intellectual abilities, and acknowledged public services. The monument to the memory of Mr and Mrs Pitcairn, in the churchyard of Colinton, should ever be regarded as a just ground of virtuous pride to the inhabitants of the parish."







## BRANCH VI.

### THE PITCAIRNS OF PITCULLO CASTLE, FIFE.



#### ARMS OF PITCAIRN OF PITCULLO.

Shield, Argent. Three lozenges, two and one, Gules.

*Crest.*

The Sun.

*Motto.*

Spes Lucis Eternæ.

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## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### PITCAIRNS OF PITCULLO.

THE Pitcairns of Pitcullo are, it is believed, a branch of the house of Pitcairns of that Ilk and Forthar-Ramsay in Fife, their ancestors having probably settled on the Pitcairn Forfarshire estates as early as the beginning of the sixteenth century. Henry, tenth laird of Pitcairn and Forthar-Ramsay in 1453, had four daughters: (1) Elizabeth, married to Sir John Ramsay of Dounfield; (2) Isobelle, married to Patrick, fourth Lord Lindsay of the Byres; (3) Margaret, wife of David Moray of Ochertyre; and (4) Catherine, who married Ballingall of that Ilk.

Henry Pitcairn's eldest son, Henry, succeeded to the family estates in Fife and Perthshire in 1489. David, his second son, became Archdean of Brechin; he succeeded to the Kincardine estate, and was witness to many deeds, one as early as 1515. He alludes to James Ramsay (son of Elizabeth Pitcairn, who married John Ramsay of Dounfield) as "his nephew," in a deed in which he gave Ramsay half of the lands of Dounfield, Jan 2, 1515 (see Pitcairns of Forthar), proving David Pitcairn was brother to Elizabeth, Lady Ramsay; and to Lady Lindsay. He was witness to the latter's marriage-contract and deeds in her favour at Struthers, 29th April 1524; and was witness to another charter for Thomas Erskine at Brechin, 11th August 1541.<sup>1</sup> John Pitcairn of Brechin is often mentioned at the same date, and signing the same deeds. There was a John Pitcairn, notary and presbyter of St Andrews, about this date and earlier, probably the same person. On the 1st of February 1565 Mr James Pitcairn's will was proved in Edinburgh: "1 Feb. 1565, Mr James Pitcarne, Archdean of Brechin."<sup>2</sup> He may have been a son of David, Archdean of Brechin.

On July 27th, 1594, there was "confirmation" by the king of a charter granted by David Pitcairne, son and heir of the late David Pitcairn of Wester Drummis, with consent of Elizabeth Ogilvie, relict of the said David Pitcairn elder,<sup>3</sup> and of John Graham, now her spouse, for his interest, and of the curators of the said David Pitcairn younger, to Sir Thomas Lyon of Auldbar, Knight, Treasurer of Scotland, and Lady Euphemia Douglas, his spouse, of the lands of Wester Drummis, with mill, &c., in the lordship of Brechin and shire of Forfar. Dated at Dundee, the 11th of November 1593.<sup>4</sup>

In 1619, December 11th, at Dundee, James Pitcairne of Hiltoun of Redcastle is witness to a charter of lands in Forfarshire.<sup>5</sup>

This James Pitcairne was probably son of the second David Pitcairn who sold West Drummis. Redcastle is an old castle on the coast of Forfarshire, now in ruins.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. No. 185.

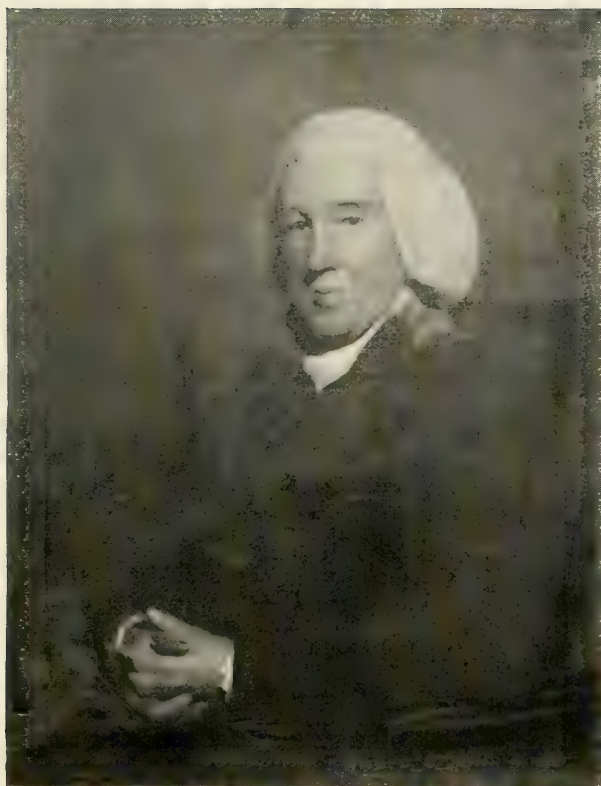
<sup>2</sup> Edinburgh Testaments.

<sup>3</sup> David Pitcairn elder was possibly son of James Pitcairne, Archdean of Brechin.

<sup>4</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xl. No. 220.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., lib. l. No. 302.





By Sir H. Raeburn

PROVOST JOHN PITCAIRN.



In 1664, on March 28th, Robert Pitcairne, Merchant Burgess of Dundee, was served heir to John Pitcairne, Merchant Burgess of Dundee, his brother.<sup>1</sup>

It is a curious coincidence that—

In 1642 Robert Pitcairne, Burgess of Perth, is mentioned as brother-german with John Pitcairne, Merchant Burgess of the same burgh, nearest kinsman—that is, cousins on the father's side—to Margaret Pitcairne, lawful daughter of the said John Pitcairne.

She married Henry Vincent, and had one son, Robert, who was declared her heir on February the 11th, 1642.<sup>2</sup> One month before this Margaret had been declared "heir of John Pitcairne, merchant burgess of Perth, her father, Jan. 10th, 1642."<sup>3</sup> Possibly the Pitcairns of Perth and Dundee were cousins. This seems probable, as both the descendants of the Perthshire Pitcairns and those of Dundee (now the Pitcairns of Pitcullo) bear the same crest and motto—the crest, the sun; and the motto, *Spes lucis eternæ*; and three lozenges for Pitcairn—on their shield. The difference is that the Perthshire Pitcairns have also an anchor on the shield, which the Pitcullo Pitcairns have not.

The next Pitcairn who is mentioned, and of whom there is authentic information, is Robert Pitcairn, writer in Dundee.

Robert Pitcairn married Jane Jobson, and had a large family; but they all died unmarried, excepting their son John, who became Provost of Dundee. He and his wife were painted by Sir Henry Raeburn, and Ronald Pitcairn, Esq. of Pitcullo (their great-grandson), kindly allowed the portraits to be photographed for this book.

Mrs Pitcairn is painted in a brown dress, a white apron, black lace fichu, and a white cap with coloured ribbons. She is seated in a chair. The size of the portrait is 35 in. by 26 in. It is a charming picture. The companion portrait of Provost Pitcairn is depicted as wearing a brown

<sup>1</sup> *Retours of Heirs*, vol. xvi. fol. 312.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, fol. 188.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, fol. 313.

coat and vest, white stock and powdered wig, also seated. Mrs Pitcairn was Jean, daughter of Alexander Robertson, at one time Provost of Dundee.

The Provost had three sons—1, Alexander; 2, William; 3, Andrew; and three daughters—1, Anne, died unmarried; 2, Janet, who married James Laidlaw, W.S., whose first wife was Janet Pitcairn of Pitblae, daughter of Andrew Pitcairn of Pitblae of the Innerneithy branch, who died 1798, her brother Andrew being served heir to her in that year; 3, the third daughter of the Provost was named Margaret: she died unmarried.

Of John Pitcairn's sons—

1, Alexander, married Helen Jobson, and had no children.

2, William, married Euphemia Chalmers. He died in 1831, aged sixty-eight, leaving six sons—(1) John, (2) Alexander, (3) William, (4) Andrew, (5) James, (6) John; and four daughters—(1) Jane, married Robert Dall, and had no children; (2) Anne, married Dr David Carnegie; (3) Margaret, married John Sandwith; (4) Isabella, was the wife of James Knowles: they had two sons and two daughters.

Of William Pitcairn's sons—

The four eldest died young and unmarried.

James, the fifth son, married, and had one son and two daughters.

John Pitcairn, sixth son, had one son and two daughters.

I have now described the descendants of William Pitcairn, the second son of Provost John Pitcairn, and will turn to Andrew Pitcairn, the third son of the Provost.

Andrew Pitcairn, of Pitcullo Castle, married Janet P. Walker of Falfield, and had ten sons and a daughter, Isabella Morrison Pitcairn, who married Major William Burnett, fifth son of John Burnett of Elrick, Aberdeenshire. Isabella died 1850. Their daughter, Helen Garden, married at Naughton, Douglas Moncrieff Govan, who was also connected with the Pitcairns, as Helen Pitcairn of Pitlour





By Sir Henry Raeburn

MRS. JOHN PITCAIRN.



was the great-grandmother of his father's mother, Anne Moncrieff.

Of Andrew Pitcairn's ten sons, six died unmarried. John Pitcairn of Pitcullo, the second son, married Cecilia, sixth daughter of George Paterson of Cunnoquhie. They had one child, a daughter, who died in infancy. His wife died on the 23rd of April 1897 at Pitcullo.<sup>1</sup> He had succeeded to Pitcullo on the death of his father.

This estate was purchased by Andrew Pitcairn about 1808. The old castle is historically interesting: it is now a ruin, and the modern house is built close by. The estate is near St Andrews, and north-east of Cupar, Fife.

Walker Pitcairn, the third son of Andrew Pitcairn of Pitcullo, married Margaret Matilda, daughter of James Colvin, Esq. He died at Englefield Lodge in 1857, having been married nine years. He left one son, Cecil Colvin, who died in 1880. His wife died, and her will was proved on the 15th of February 1895.<sup>2</sup> She is called therein "Mrs Margaret Matilda Pitcairn of Englefield Lodge, Englefield Green, Surrey."

William, the sixth son, married in 1846 Agnes Paston Paterson, daughter of George Paterson of Cunnoquhie, and sister to Cecilia, who married John Pitcairn of Pitcullo. William Pitcairn died in 1874, leaving three daughters—(1) Janet, unmarried; (2) Georgina, who married William J. Nunneley; (3) Florence, married to the Rev. Frederick B. Nunneley.

The Nunneleys were descendants of Joseph Nunneley of Mickleover House, Derbyshire, and Sarah Elizabeth Barham, his wife.

Georgina, William Pitcairn's second daughter, has two sons and two daughters—(1) William Pitcairn Nunneley, a lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion of the Black Watch. He is the eldest male representative of the Patersons of Cunnoquhie.

Cunnoquhie is a lovely old place in Fife, on the sunny

<sup>1</sup> Scotsman, 24th April 1897.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 15th Feb. 1895.

slope of a hill, with charming surroundings. It was sold some years ago.

A picture of it was to have been in this book, but I much regret that, owing to a chemical defect in the photograph, the illustrator found it impossible to reproduce it.

(2) Josephine Elizabeth, (3) John Cecil, (4) Agnes Emily Barham.

William Pitcairn's daughter Florence married, as has been stated, the Rev. Frederick Barham Nunneley, M.D., and had four sons and two daughters—(1) Frederick Pitcairn, M.B., M.A. (Oxon.); (2) Ellen; (3) Mary Agnes Paterson; (4) George Paterson, late lieutenant 5th Northumberland Fusiliers; (5) Charles Francis, second lieutenant 3rd West Kent Regiment; (6) Robert Moncrieff, died young.

Lieut.-Col. Andrew Pitcairn, the tenth son of Andrew Pitcairn, married Georgina Maria, daughter of George Stevenson, in 1857. He died at Pitcullo, Cupar, Fife, on the 10th of February 1892. He also had a house in Edinburgh, No. 7 Eglinton Crescent. He was Lieut.-Col. of the 42nd Highlanders, "The Black Watch."

Colonel Pitcairn had five sons and one daughter, all of whom are at present living, with the exception of one son who died in infancy.

1, Ronald Andrew, was born the 13th of October 1858. He is the present owner of Pitcullo Castle, and unmarried.

2, Charles Walker, born the 1st of February 1860, died 23rd May 1862.

3, George Stevenson Pitcairn, born 13th of September 1862, "married on the 6th of September 1899," at St Michael's Church, Cupar, Jane Alexandra, second daughter of Alexander Macdonald of Babranald, North Uist, and Edenwood, Fife.<sup>1</sup>

He has one son, Andrew Alexander, born 9th of March 1901.

Alice Rose, Colonel Pitcairn's only daughter, was married "at St Stephen's Church, South Kensington, London, on

<sup>1</sup> Fife Herald, 6th Sept. 1899.





PITCULLO CASTLE.



OF

2

TH





the 11th of February 1896, to Captain Herbert M'Dougall Williams, 1st Batt. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders."

4, Robert Henry, was born the 1st of April 1868, and served for some years as lieutenant in the Black Watch.

The fifth son is Andrew Holford, born the 26th of November 1870. He married, in July 1900, Cecilia Maud Talbot, second daughter of Major Talbot. They have no children. Andrew Holford Pitcairn served for some years as lieutenant in the Seaforth Highlanders.

I am indebted to the kindness of George S. Pitcairn, Esq., Douglas Govan, Esq., and Frederick Pitcairn Nunneley, Esq., for many particulars of this branch of the Pitcairn family.

## BRANCH VII.

### THE PERTHSHIRE PITCAIRNS.



#### ARMS OF THE PITCAIRNS OF PERTHSHIRE.

Shield, three lozenges, with an Anchor in the centre.

*Crest.*

The Sun.

*Motto.*

Spes Lucis Eternæ.



## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### THE PERTHSHIRE PITCAIRNS.

THE Perthshire Pitcairns are a cadet branch of the Pitcairns of Forthar and Pitcairn in Fife, and of Innerneathy in Perthshire. John Pitcairn, son of John Pitcairn, born 1743, Burgess of Perth, one of the descendants of this family, acquired the estate of Pitcairns, which is situated in the village of Dunning, Perthshire. The present house is a comparatively new one, having been built about a hundred years ago by John Pitcairn after he bought the property. Pitcairns House is beautifully situated: there is



PITCAIRN'S HOUSE.





a romantic glen leading up to the old gardens, and the old house, which is still standing, is now used as the home farm. The ancient doorway of the old building can be distinctly traced where it once opened into the gardens, although it is now blocked up. The estate is in a most picturesque spot, and there are lovely views of the Ochils from many points. The grounds are well kept and very pretty. The property now belongs to Lord Rollo, whose father bought it from John Pitcairn's son, John Pitcairn, who died unmarried in 1824. Lord Rollo tells me that Mr Pitcairn is said to have purchased the estate on account of its name, although he may have been unaware of the fact that it *did* belong to Pitcairns in bygone times. The shooting extends to about 3000 acres, and there is good fishing in Dunning Burn. I am indebted for the picture of Pitcairns to Mrs Drummond, daughter of Colonel Home, the present tenant, who most kindly photographed it for me, and to the kind courtesy of Lord Rollo, who allowed it to be reproduced.

The first John Pitcairn died in 1773, aged seventy-three, and was buried in the Greyfriars' Churchyard, Perth. On his tombstone is carved the crest, the full moon, and the motto "Plena Refulget."

This crest and motto are identical with those of the Pitcairns of that Ilk and Forthar.

His son, John Pitcairn of Pitcairns, had another grant of arms in 1808. It is: The crest—"The Sun." The motto—"Spes lucis eternæ." Arms: Argent, an anchor in pale azure between three mascles gules.

The Rev. David Lee Pitcairn, of this Branch, kindly sent me two specimens of seals in his possession. The first, the Sun, with the motto, Spes lucis eternæ, belonged to his grandfather, Alexander Pitcairn of Edinburgh. The second to his grandmother, Elizabeth (wife of Alexander). It has also the Crest, "the Sun"; round it the motto, "Spes lucis eternæ," and the initials E. P. below the sun.

The following is what I know about the respective owners

of Pitcairns, which may be of interest to the members of the Perthshire Branch of Pitcairns.

Henry Petcarne of that Ilk, seventh lord of Pitcarne, Strathearn, Pitcarne, Fife, and Innernethy, whose mother was Marion de Taillefer, and father, Henry, sixth laird of Pitcarne of that Ilk, living in 1420, had one son—

Alexander, eighth laird of that Ilk.

Alexander had two sons—

1, George, of that Ilk, ninth laird of Pitcarne, Fife, Pitcairns, Perthshire, and Innernethy.

2, James Pitcarne, who in 1454 was given Innernethy by his father Alexander.

George Pitcarne of that Ilk (No. 1) had four sons—

(1) Henry of that Ilk, who succeeded him as tenth laird of Pitcairns; (2) THOMAS; (3) John, a notary public; (4) ROBERT.

The *second* son, THOMAS, became lord of Pitcarne, Strathearn, and he is mentioned in an old deed as the "Great and powerful Lord, Thomas de Petcarne." The document was written by Alexander Seton, notary of St Andrews, and is in the great church of Saint Thomas the Martyr of Aberbrothick, 5 Oct. 1415.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Thomas de Petcarne resigned part of the lands of Pitcarne, in the Sherifffdom of Perth, to Lord Ruthven in the reign of James III., and they were sold by Lord Ruthven to David Guthrie of Kincaldrum and Janet his wife, in 1465, also the Easter third to Thomas Cramby.<sup>1</sup> "In 1492 sasine is given of the Pitcarne lands in Strathearn to 'Marion Gilchrist, Janet Watson, Katherine Spens, and Archibald Cromby respectively, in the Stewartry of Strathearn.' Thomas de Petcarne then having left Pitcarne, settled on the lands of Freuchy near Kettle."

In 1537, on the 12th of January, Sir Oliver Sinclair got by charter under the great seal the lands and barony of Pitcairns, and in 1546 Queen Mary renewed the charter.

Sir William Murray of Letterbarachty (second son of Sir David Murray of Arngask and Balvaird) and his wife Barbara

<sup>1</sup> See Forthar Pitcairns.

Pitcairn (daughter of David Pitcairn of that Ilk, laird of Forthar) bought back Pitcairns in Strathearn from Lord Ruthven in 1573.<sup>1</sup>

Barbara Pitcairn's sister, Elizabeth Pitcairn, also daughter of David Pitcairn of Forthar, and Elizabeth Durie his wife, married Andrew Kinninmonth of Craighall, Portioner of that Ilk, and the marriage-contract is dated at Craighall, 1 Feb. 1582 (Reg. Mag. Sig., 4 Dec. 1583). The contract is between Andrew Kinninmonth on the one part and John Lindsay apparent of Kirkforthar of the other part, Elizabeth Pitcairn being John Lindsay's step-daughter, he having married David Pitcairn's widow.

On the death of John Lindsay there is another contract at Kirkforthar, dated Dec. 1599, "between Patrick Lyndesay of Kirkforthar on the one part, and Issobell Dury, relict of John Lyndesay of Kirkforthar, Elspeth Pitcairn her daughter, and Margaret Kinninmonth her oy [granddaughter], and Issobell Dury taking burden for her other oyes on the other part."<sup>1</sup>

A discharge to Patrick L. in respect of goods of the late John Lindsay for certain considerations.

Witnesses : { David Lindsay, brother-german to Patrick.  
Henrie Pitcairn of that Ilk.  
Robert Pitcairn in Forthar.

It seems probable that Elizabeth Pitcairn, wife of Andrew Kinninmonth, had been left Pitcairns by her sister Barbara, Lady Murray of Arngask, or she may have bought the property. Anyway they acquired it, for on March 3rd, 1657, James Kinninmonth of that Ilk, heir of Patrick Kinninmonth of that Ilk his father (the latter probably son of Elizabeth), is served heir in a fifth part of the lands of Kinninmonth within the parish of Kinglassie. The lands of Cowquhales Easter and Wester, the lands of Colletoune, the *lands of Pitcairne and Mylne of Pitcairn*, the lands of Urquhart, the lands of Pitkenney—all united into the Barony of Wester Kinninmonth.

In 1686, April 27th, Patrick Kinnimond of that Ilk is heir to James Kinninmond of that Ilk (his father) in a fifth part of the lands of Kinninmonth within the Barony of Kinglassie, of the lands of Urquhart, Coquhaillies Easter and Wester, Collestoune, the land of *Pitcairn* and Milldam of *Pitcairn*—of the land of Pitkeanny, all united in the Barony of Wester Kinninmonth.

We shall now return to a description of what I have discovered of the Pitcairns dwelling in Perth, up to the time of

<sup>1</sup> See Forthar Pitcairns.

John Pitcairn, Burgess of Perth in 1700-1773. From this date there is authentic information given to me by various members of that branch of the family.

The city of Perth is of great antiquity, and although there are few ancient buildings left standing, it abounds in historical associations of great interest to antiquarians. Perth was often the residence of the Scottish kings, and was celebrated for its grammar-school in very early days.

The earliest mention of the Pitcairns in Perth is in 1312. In a Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland in H.M. Public Record Office, London, there is a

List of Horses appraised at Perth on 8th July 1312.

*Inter alios* :—

John of Petcarn "his" black horse with star . . .	£8
Ranulf de Petcarn "his" brown horse . . .	100/
Duncan de Petcarn "his" black horse . . .	10 merks.
Robert de Petcarn's dapple-grey horse . . .	£10

There was also an old charter signed at Perth, as far back as 1368, for one of the Pitcairns, as follows :—

Charter by David II., King of Scots, confirming the charter which Duncan Norri granted to Walter de Petcarne of all his lands of Moneyeythyn in the Barony thereof, and sheriffdom of Kyncardyn, excepting the hall, garden, orchard, one barn, with one acre of land lying nearest to the east part, reserved for the habitation of the said Duncan, dated at Perth, 15th December 1368.

In 1465 David Guthre of Kincaldrum and Janet his wife, and Thomas Cramby, had sasine of the lands of Pitcairn, and in 1492 sasine is given to Janet Watson, Marion Gilchryst, and Katherine *Spens* respectively, of the lands of Petcarne; also to Archibald Cromby (from the Exchequer Rolls). They were probably connected with the Pitcairns by marriage, for later on there is mentioned in a charter an Elizabeth Gilchryst, wife of a Robert Pitcairn, Burgess of Perth. The Gows (Smiths), Crows, and Crambies (*Crombys*—*i.e.*, bandy-legged) are well-known names in the old history of Perth. The name of Spens occurs in another Pitcairn charter in 1552, where "Jas. Pitcairne of Inner-



nethy occupied lands Cordoun and Cordounhauch belonging to Johanni Spens."

The present Pitcairns of Perthshire may have been descended from the before-mentioned Lord Thomas de Petcarn of Pitcarns, Strathearn, or from his brother Robert, fourth son of George Pitcarn of that Ilk, ninth laird. In the Exchequer Rolls of 1477, in the "account of Robert Grey of Leith, Custumar, [there is mentioned the] coming of English goods to the Port of Leith and there sold. There is allowed 30s. of the custom, 3 chalders of malt, of Robert de Petkarne, Burgess of Perth, who was exempt from payment of custom." Probably the Robert Pitcairn, son of George of that Ilk.

The fair city of Perth was from very early times celebrated for its trade, particularly in weaving and making gloves. In olden days it was called St Johnstoun, and the present church of St John is one of the most ancient of its buildings.

To be a Burgess of Perth in the fifteenth century meant a man of good standing in the city, and one of considerable substance.

On the 27th October 1536, John Pitcairn of Drungy and Pitlour, son of Henry Pitcairn of that Ilk and Forthar, sold lands of his village of Blairfortht, in the Barony of Cuthelgurdy in Perth, to Andree Gib. The deed was witnessed by Henry Pitcairn, his heir-apparent, William Pitcairn, JOHN, and James Pitcairn, at his house of Pitloure.<sup>1</sup>

He sold some more of his land in Perthshire, of Blair of Forth, and the third part of Strentoun in the Barony of Cuthelgurdy and shire of Perth, to David Wemyss, brother-german of John Wemyss of that Ilk. Dated at Pitlour, 10th June 1553, confirmed at Perth, the 18th June 1553.<sup>2</sup>

Some say it might possibly be that the Pitcairns of Perthshire were descended from John, the third son of John Pitcairn of Pitlour. It may be so. I know nothing of him. Of his brothers I have ample evidence that they did not settle in Perth.<sup>3</sup>

I cannot find any mention of the Pitcairns of Perth again

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. No. 357.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., lib. xxxii. No. 631.

<sup>3</sup> See the Pitlour Branch.

until "1636, Jan. 18th, when Robert Pitcairn was served heir to his mother, Elizabeth Gilchryst."<sup>1</sup> It may be noticed here that in 1492 a Marion Gilchryst had sasine of part of the Pitcairn lands in Strathearn: she probably was a Pitcairn, daughter of Thomas de Petkarn, who married a Gilchryst, and was ancestor of Elizabeth Gilchryst.

In 1642, Jan 10th,<sup>2</sup> Robert Pitcairne, Skinner, Burgess of Perth is mentioned as being brother-german to John Pitcairne, merchant burgess of the same burgh, nearest kinsman, that is, cousins on the father's side, to Margaret Pitcairn, lawful daughter of the said John Pitcairne. She married Henry Vincent, and had a son Robert.

Margaret's father, John Pitcairne, died, and she was served heir to him.

"1642, Jan. 10th, Margaret Pitcairne, heir of John Pitcairne, merchant burgess of Perth, her father."<sup>3</sup> She must have died on the 11th Feby. of that year, for in "1642, February 11th, Robert Vincent (is) heir of Margaret Pitcairne, spouse of Henry Vincent, burgess of Perth, his mother."<sup>4</sup>

Two Pitcairns of the same Christian names, Robert and John, brothers and merchant burgesses of Dundee, are mentioned in 1664 in the *Retours of Heirs* as follows: "1664, March 28th, Robert Pitcairne, merchant, burgess of Dundie, heir of John Pitcairne, merchant, burgess of Dundie, his brother."<sup>5</sup> There is a possibility that John and Robert Pitcairne of Dundee were either sons or cousins of the Perth Pitcairns, but this is merely conjecture.

To be a skinner or glover, and Burgess of Perth, as Robert Pitcairne was in 1642, was to be a member of a very powerful corporation. The Skinner's Yard is still in the possession of that fraternity. The Curfew Row, which now encloses the Skinner's Yard, in the reign of Robert III. formed the avenue or street, leading from the northern part of the town to the Dominican Monastery.

<sup>1</sup> *Retours of Heirs*, vol. xvi. fol. 67.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xvi. fol. 312.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xvi. fol. 313.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xvi. fol. 188.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xxvii. fol. 206.

The Glovers' Incorporation of Perth have preserved entire the attire of one of the morrice-dancers of old, who danced before one of the Scottish monarchs on his visit to Perth. The dress is made of fawn-coloured silk, in the form of a tunic, with trappings of green and red satin. Accompanying it are two hundred and fifty small circular bells, formed into twenty-one sets of bells, of twelve bells each, upon pieces of leather, made to fasten on various parts of the body. There is perfect intonation of each set, and regular musical intervals between the tone of each. The performer could therefore give a pleasing and musical chime when he swayed his body in various directions.

The glovers of Perth were of very great repute, and numbered amongst them, from a very early period, were men of considerable substance.

They still show a banner under which their forefathers fought in the seventeenth century. It bears this inscription: "The perfect honour of a craft, or beauty of a trade, is not in wealthe, but in moral worth, whereby virtue gains renown"; and surmounted by the words, "Grace and Peace." The date 1604.

"There is also another relic in the archives of this body, a leathern lash called 'the whip of St Bartholomew,' which the craft were often admonished in the records to apply to the back of refractory apprentices."<sup>1</sup>

The shops as well as the houses of the glovers were in the time of Robert III., as the name implies, in the Skinnergate; but they also had houses, fields, and gardens in or adjacent to the Curfew Row.

To the north of Perth, near the Almond river, are still Pitcairnfield and Pitcairngreen, which no doubt were formerly owned by the Pitcairns.

The next Pitcairn we hear of in Perth is John Pitcairn, burgess of Perth, Dean of the Guild of Weavers, born in 1700. He married, the 12th of Dec. 1731, Margaret Mair of Strathmiglo, died 16th March 1768. Pitcairn died at Perth in 1773, aged 73 years. He was buried in the Greyfriars'

<sup>1</sup> Note H. to 'The Fair Maid of Perth,' by Sir Walter Scott.

Churchyard, Perth; and on his tombstone is carved the crest, a full moon, with the motto, "Plena Refulget."<sup>1</sup>

John Pitcairn had six sons and one daughter—

1. William, born 30th Oct. 1732.<sup>2</sup> Died young.
2. James, born 1st Dec. 1734. Died 17th Aug. 1807.
3. Alexander, born 22nd March 1737. Died young.
1. Jean, born 9th Dec. 1739. Died young.
4. John, born 23rd Dec. 1743. Died 17th Oct. 1824.
5. Alexander, born 25th Dec. 1746. Died 18th April 1819.
6. Robert, born 16th Feb. 1749. Died 11th June 1828.

James, John Pitcairn's second son, married and had a son, Robert, born in Perth, April 1761: Robert married and had a son, Douglas, who married and had a son, Charles.

John Pitcairn, the fourth son of John Pitcairn, and owner of Pitcairns, Dunning, Perthshire, married Mary, eldest daughter of Thomas Trotter, Esq., of Edinburgh, and had one son and three daughters. His son John was born in 1785, and died in 1848, *s. p.* He was a Deputy-Lieutenant and J.P. He sold "Pitcairns" to the late Lord Rollo.

Lord Rollo kindly informs me—

The last John Pitcairn of Pitcairns I remember very well. He died in 1848; and the year before his death he sold the estate to my father, the late Lord Rollo.

I also remember very well his sister, Mrs Veitch, who kept house for him, and lived in Edinburgh after leaving Pitcairns. I rather think they had *first cousins* of the same name who lived in Edinburgh. Of the other two sisters of John Pitcairn I knew nothing.

Of the second John Pitcairn's daughters, (1) Charlotte and (2) Margaret died unmarried; (3) Mary, the third daughter, married George Veitch, Esq., W.S., of Ratho Bank, who died in 1826, but left no children. Therefore that branch of the Pitcairns is now extinct.

5, Alexander, fifth son of John Pitcairn of Perth, married twice. His first wife was Elizabeth Low of Dundee. By her he had two sons: 1, John, who married

<sup>1</sup> Kindly communicated by A. Y. Pitcairn, Esq., W.S., Edinburgh.  
Perth Registers.



Emma Hunt, and had six sons—(1) John George; (2) Alexander, died young; (3) Henry; (4) Robert, a widower; (5) David; (6) William Hunt, *d. s. p.*—and four daughters.

John Pitcairn's eldest son, John George, married Augusta, daughter of Mr Roanthwaite, and had six boys—(1) John, (2) George Frederick, (3) William Cecil, (4) Charles Alexander, (5) Arthur Alexander, (6) Hugh Francis; and four girls—(1) Jessie Margaret, (2) Emma Roanthwaite, (3) Alice Mary, (4) Augusta Mabel.

David Pitcairn, John Pitcairn's fourth son, married Mary, daughter of Mr Sheppee, and had two daughters—(1) Mary Evelyn, (2) Mary Margaret; and three sons—(1) Francis Bernard, (2) Arthur Noel, (3) Stephen Hugh.

We now return to Alexander Pitcairn's second son by his first wife—the Rev. David Pitcairn, D.D., died 1870. He married Mary Guinness; they had two sons and one daughter—(1) Arthur Alexander, deceased; (2) Rev. David Lee Pitcairn, Vicar of Monkton Combe, Bath, who has kindly furnished me with many particulars of his family from family papers in his possession. He married Anne Clementine Elizabeth Elverson, second daughter of James Hawes Elverson, Esq., Barnby, Leicestershire. His sister is May G. Pitcairn of Monksilver, Carey Crescent, Torquay. Alexander had also one daughter, Elizabeth, by his first wife, who died unmarried. His second wife was Jane Trotter, sister to Mary Trotter, who married John Pitcairn of Pitcairns, Alexander's elder brother. Alexander had four sons and one daughter by his *second* wife. They were: 1, The Rev. Thomas Pitcairn, born the 5th of February 1800. Minister of Cockpen, 1833 to 1843, then clerk of the F.C. Assembly. Married his cousin, Ann Hay Trotter, and died on the 1st of December 1854, leaving one son—Alexander Young Pitcairn, W.S., of Edinburgh, who married Helen Wyld. He had two daughters—(1) Janet Wyld, died 1889, (2) Anne Cranstoun; and three sons—(1) Thomas, (2) John Wyld, (3) William Andrew.

Alexander Pitcairn's second son by his second wife was named Alexander, was in the Indian Civil Service, and

died in India, unmarried, about 1822. William Fettes, his third son by Jane Trotter, was born 1803, and died September 1891. He married Agnes Campbell Brown, but had no children.

Margaret, Alexander's only daughter, married Patrick Fairbairn, who became Principal of the Free Church College, Glasgow. Their son, John, died in 1874, and Margaret herself died in 1837.

Robert Pitcairn, Alexander's fourth son, married Jean Kincaid, third daughter of John Kincaid and Elizabeth, daughter of George Dainziell, merchant burgess of Glasgow. She was born the 23rd of October 1764, married the 27th of April 1787, died 11th of Sept. 1839.

They had five sons and two daughters—

1. John Kincaid, born 1790.
2. Robert (see next chapter).
3. James, born 1798, died 1847.
4. George, who died in the Crimea.
5. Alexander, died 27th May 1886.
1. Elizabeth, died unmarried.
2. Margaret, died unmarried.

James, the third son, was a doctor in Edinburgh. He married Cecilia, daughter of David Thomson, W.S., and had one son, who died *sine prole*, and three daughters. The eldest, Margaret Thomson, married the Rev. Kenneth Macleay Phin, D.D., Minister of Galashiels; the second, Mary Thomson, married William Sym, Esq., and left six sons: (1) James Pitcairn Sym, W.S.; (2) John David, Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of Perthshire; (3) William Melvill, C.A.; (4) Allan Cuthbertson, M.D.; (5) Rev. Arthur Pollok, B.D., Minister of Lilliesleaf; (6) William George, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.; and a daughter, Cecilia Thomson. The third daughter, Jane Kincaid, married Rev. David Playfair, B.A. Cantab., and left two sons, David Thomson, M.D., and Rev. Patrick Macdonald, Minister of St Andrews; and two daughters, Cecilia Pitcairn (who married Rev. William Vassie, Minister of Castleton), and Alice Jane Macduff.

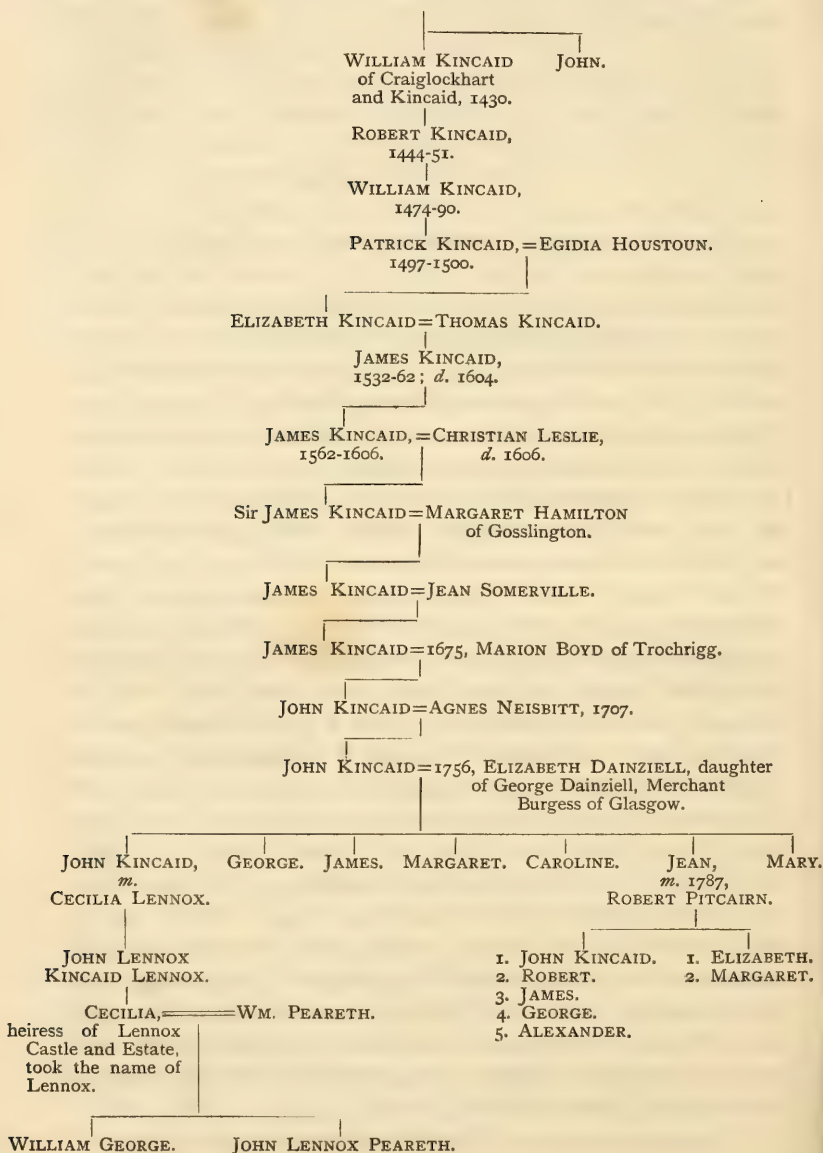
## CHAPTER XL.

LIFE OF ROBERT PITCAIRN, W.S., 1793-1855.

ROBERT PITCAIRN, the second son of Robert Pitcairn, W.S., was a most distinguished man. He was born in 1793, apprenticed to William Patrick, W.S., and admitted Writer to the Signet on the 21st of November 1815. I have here a book-plate of his. It is a shield with a border engrailed gules; on the shield are three lozenges, two and one; above the shield, a helmet profile view, above that a wreath, then the sun, and above that the motto, *Spes Lucis Æternæ*, and below the shield, Robert Pitcairn, Writer to the Signet. On his father's side Pitcairn came of an ancient and honourable family, who, as Nesbit says, "lived on the Pitcairn lands from time immemorial." Pitcairn belonged to a cadet branch of the Pitcairns of that Ilk. On his mother's side he could also claim a good descent,—the Kincaids were formerly Hereditary Constables of the Castle of Edinburgh, and in addition to their property of Kincaid seem to have also owned Craiglockhart, and probably lived there more than at Kincaid in those days. Tradition says they have been settled at Kincaid since about 1250; but of that I have no proof. There were several cadets of the family during the sixteenth century owning land in and around Edinburgh. The family lost their property about 1600, through one Sir James Kincaid. His wife was a Margaret Hamilton of Goselington, his mother a Christian Leslie, I presume of the Rothés family, by the coat of arms on their grave.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by a descendant of the Kincaids, John Lennox Peareth.

LINEAGE OF MRS ROBERT PITCAIRN, Mother to ROBERT  
PITCAIRN, W.S., Author of 'Criminal Trials.'





For many years Robert Pitcairn was an assistant to Thomas Thomson, deputy Clerk Register to H.M. Register House.

He was very industrious, and a most accurate worker. In 1822 he published 'Collections relative to the Funeralls of Mary Queen of Scots.' In 1828 an edition of "*Chronicon Cenobii Sancte crucis Edinburgensis*" (Bannatyne Club). In 1830 'Three Families of the Name of Kennedy,' dedicated to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex.

There appeared in 1833 an elaborate and exhaustive treatise, in three volumes, by Pitcairn, called 'Trials and other Proceedings in Matters Criminal before the High Court of Justice in Scotland.' Long before the book came out, as early as 1831, Sir Walter Scott reviewed the earlier part of it, praising his friend's "enduring and patient toil,"<sup>1</sup> and thanking him "for his self-denying exertions in producing a most extraordinary picture of manners, calculated to be highly valuable in a philosophical point of view, and containing much that would greatly interest the purists and moralists."

Sir Walter Scott's friendship for Pitcairn was partly owing to their kindred tastes—in fact, Pitcairn's antiquarian and literary research commended him in such a degree to Scott, and the latter's interest was so much aroused by one of the narratives in his 'Criminal Trials,' that it led him to write his "Ayrshire Tragedy."<sup>2</sup> In 1839 Robert Pitcairn married Hester Hine Hunt, daughter of Henry Hunt, merchant, London. He and his wife lived at 9 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, and here all his children were born. In 1842 he edited Sir James Melville's Diary. In 1853 he was appointed one of the four official searchers of records for incumbrances in the Register House, Edinburgh.

He was Secretary to the Calvin Translation Society, and was associated with Henry Beveridge, Esq., Advocate, who translated many of Calvin's works for Mr Pitcairn.

<sup>1</sup> Sir W. Scott, *Miscellaneous Prose Works*, vol. xxi.

<sup>2</sup> Lockhart's *Life of Scott*, vol. vii. p. 202.

Robert Pitcairn died suddenly in Edinburgh, on the 11th of July 1855,<sup>1</sup> leaving his widow and children to mourn the loss of a husband and father who was an example of industry and unremitting patient toil. His standard work, 'Criminal Trials,' has been of infinite value to many, and it is very noteworthy how often it is quoted in marginal references of historical works about Scotland. I have come across these references over and over again in writing this History.

Robert Pitcairn had seven children—

(1) Mary Hine, *d. s. p.*; (2) Henry Hunt, *d. s. p.*; (3) Robert James, *d. s. p.*; (4) George Kincaid; (5) Hester Hine Hunt; (6) John Hine; (7) Augustus William.

George Kincaid Pitcairn, M.B., of Littleborough, Lancashire, is now the eldest surviving son of the great writer. He married, firstly, Helen Mary Glasfurd; and, secondly, Mary Mabel Thorne, daughter of Robert Thorne of Cleve-lands, Greenock.<sup>2</sup>

John Hine, Robert Pitcairn's fourth son, married the daughter of Gen. George Staple Dobbie, and has one son, John Kincaid Pitcairn.

Mr Pitcairn has a portrait in his possession of Dr Archibald Pitcairne, said to be a Medina, similar to the one in the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

<sup>1</sup> Scotsman, 14th July 1855.

<sup>2</sup> Kindly communicated by George Kincaid Pitcairn, M.B., of Littleborough.

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## I N D E X.

---

- Abernethy, 2.  
 Abernethy, Sir Hugo de, 3.  
 Adam, Sir Charles, of Blairadam, 498.  
 Ambassador Pitcairn, 98-110.  
 Anstruther, family of, 404, 405, 406.  
 Arbuthnot, John, of Mondayunes, 129.  
     Catherine, *née* Pitcairn, 129.  
 Auchmuty, Elizabeth, *née* Pitcairn, 128.  
 Axford, Elizabeth, wife of James Pitcairn, 197.  
 Ayton, Andrew, of Inchdairnie, 130, 131.  
     Elizabeth, *née* Pitcairn, 64.  
     family of, 64.  
     Robert, 64.
- Babington, 234.  
 Balfour, Janet, *née* Pitcairn, 52.  
 Balfours, 60, 61.  
 Ballingall, Catherine, *née* Pitcairn, 40.  
     David, 43.  
     John, 40.  
     Patrick, 40.  
     Thomas, 40.  
     William, 40.
- Balvaird, 40.  
     Isobel, 41.
- Barclay, David, 40.  
     Henry, 39.
- Bethune, family of, 67, 68.  
     Isobel, *née* Pitcairn, 66.  
     John, of Balfour, 66.
- Bible printed in Scotland, III.  
 Bishop Moorhouse, 314.  
     of Manchester, Bishop Fraser, 300.  
     of Manchester, Dr James Prince Lee, 300.
- Blair of Forth, 42.  
 Bothwell, trial of, 95.
- Branch I. The Pitcairns of Inner-nethy, 331.
- Branch II. The Pitcairns of Pitlour, 342-363.  
     " III. The Pitcairnes of Pitcairne and Unstoun, 364.  
     " IV. The Pitcairns of Dysart, 409.  
     " V. The Pitcairns of Dreghorn Castle, 463.  
     " VI. The Pitcairns of Pitcullo Castle, Fife, 503.  
     " VII. The Perthshire Pitcairns, 510.  
     Brougham, Lord, 498.  
     Brydone, Patrick, 495.
- Campbell, Brigadier-General Pitcairn, 450.  
     Mrs Pitcairn, 451.  
     Rev. Augustus, 413, 414, 436, 437.  
     Sir John, 410, 411, 413.
- Charters, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 27, 28, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 48, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 66, 70, 74, 75, 79, 80, 114, 115, 124, 125, 126, 127, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 158, 159, 172, 173, 175, 332, 333, 334, 335, 344, 345, 347, 348, 351, 366, 367, 368.
- Cochrane, Hon. Charles, 437; Catherine Pitcairn, wife of, 437.
- Colernay, 18.
- Colville of Culross (Lord), 404.
- Cowan, 467.
- Crawford, George, Earl of, 36.  
     twenty-first Earl of, 470.
- Creichtoun, Sir David, of Lugton: Ann, his daughter, married William Pitcairn, 173.
- Cumming, Lady Gordon, 436.
- Cunnoquhie, 507.

- Dalbiac, Sir Charles, letter about Salamanca, 225; letters of, 230, 232, 233.  
     family of, 221, 222.  
     Mrs Anne, death of, 230.  
 Dalrymple, family of, 434, 435, 436, 437.  
 Douglas, family of, 181, 183.  
 Dovan, transfer of lands, 53-60.  
 Dreghorn Castle, 466.  
 Drumgy, barony of, 18.  
 Dundonald, Earl of, 453.  
 Dunfermline Abbey, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89.  
     lands, 76.  
     second Baron, 496.  
 Dunfield or Downfield, 48.  
 Dury, Andrew, 43.  
     George, 43.  
     George, Abbot, 46.  
     John, of Dury, 43.  
 Eccles Church restored, 292; history of, 273, 277.  
 Eccles, description of, 281.  
     Canon Pitcairn "instituted" to, 283.  
     vicars of, 278.  
 Elliot, 497.  
 Erskine, Lady Janet, 404.  
 Falcons, 154.  
 Forthar-Ramsay, 18, 43.  
 Forthar sold, 180, 187.  
 Gold-Headed Cane, the, 454.  
 Govan, Douglas, 506.  
 Gunpowder, 161.  
 Hamilton, Katherine, of Wishaw, wife of David Pitcairn, 418.  
     Lineage of, 419.  
 Innernethy, 1.  
 Kellie, Archibald, seventh Earl of, 407, 408.  
     Earls of, 401, 402, 403.  
     Janet Pitcairn, Countess of, 398, 401, 403.  
     Thomas Alexander, sixth Earl of, 406, 407.  
 King Charles I., 143, 144.  
 King's Kettle, 78.  
 Kinnear, David, 129.  
     Isobel, *née* Pitcairn, 129.  
     John, of Kinnear, 129.  
 Kinninmonth, Andrew, 35.  
     Andrew, of Craighall, 65.  
     Elizabeth, 35.  
     Elspeth, *née* Pitcairn, 65.  
 Kinninmonth, James, 65.  
     Patrick, 65.  
     Patrick, 66.  
     William, 65.  
 Letter, Earl of Dunfermline to John Murray, 145.  
     *from* Andrew Pitcairn to Secretary, Conway, 157.  
     " Andrew Pitcairn to Secretary, Dorchester, 157.  
     " Canon Heywood, 324.  
     " Council to King, 170.  
     " George Ranking, 210.  
     " Lady Charlotte Russell, 299, 312.  
     " Langlands Cowell, 217.  
     " Mrs West, 318, 324.  
     " Rev. Mr Robinson, 325.  
     " Sir Charles Dalbiac, 210, 211.  
     " Sir John Campbell, 216.  
     " William Pitcairn, 212, 214.  
     *of* Frances Pitcairn, 208.  
     " Sir William Douglas to James Pitcairn, 184.  
     *on* battle of Waterloo, 208, 209.  
 Letters, 382, 414, 415, 416, 421, 434, 435, 436, 437.  
     *from* Duchess of Roxburghe, 211-215, 291, 309, 310, 315, 316, 317, 318, 325.  
     " Duke of Roxburghe, 208-311.  
     Matthew, Earl of Lennox, to Pitcairn, 100, 101, 102.  
     *of* Rev. James Pitcairn, 188, 189.  
     Rev. James Pitcairn to his daughter Hort, 194, 195, 196.  
     Sir James Pitcairn, 218, 219, 220.  
     *to* J. Pelham Pitcairn, 252, 253, 261, 262, 266, 267, 268, 269.  
 Lexington, battle of, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444.  
 Limekilns, 114.  
 Lindsay, David, of Kirkforthar, 35.  
     David Clark Bethune, Earl of, 36.  
     Janet, daughter of Andrew Pitcairn, 164.  
     Jean, *née* Pitcairn, 35.  
     John, of Kirkforthar, 34.  
     Lord Patrick, 23-28.  
     Mary, Viscountess Garnock, *née* Home, 36.  
     Patrick, of Kirkforthar, 35.  
     Patrick, Viscount Garnock, 36.  
     Sir John, of Pitcruvie, 33.  
     Sir William, of Piotstone, 33.  
 Madden, 467.  
 Mallam, Denne, wife of Robert Pitcairn, 200.

Menteith, family of, 167, 169.  
 Mariota, married David Pitcairn, 167.  
 Sir William, 167.  
 Minto, the Earl of, 496.  
 Morries, J. M., of Gogar, 465.  
 Murray, Barbara, *née* Pitcairn, 68.  
 family of, 71.  
 Regent, 97.  
 Sir William, of Letterbannachty, 69.  
 William, Lord Mansfield, 71, 72, 73.  
 Nunneley, 507.  
 Ochtertyre, 21.  
 Petcarne, Thomas de, 14.  
 Walter, 14.  
 Phin, Agnes, *née* Pitcairn, 62.  
 David, 62.  
 John, 62.  
 Patrick, 62.  
 Pitcairn, Abbot's house, 81.  
 Agnes, 185.  
 Alexander, of that Ilk, 179;  
 wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir Patrick Threipland, 179.  
 Alexander Young, W.S., 519.  
 Andrew, 41.  
 Andrew, Master Falconer, 143-165.  
 Andrew, pension £500, 147.  
 Anna Maria, marriage of, 236;  
 children of, 236.  
 Arms, 114.  
 Augustus William, 524.  
 Barbara, married Sir William Murray, 22.  
 Rev. David, of Dysart, 414, 416, 417, 420, 421; wife of, 417, 418; children of, 420.  
 Rev. David Lee, 511.  
 David, of that Ilk, 166, 181; wife, Agnes, daughter of Sir Robert Douglas, 181; son, James; daughters, Jannet, Margaret, Clementina, Cuysham, Elizabeth, Dorothea, Marion, Agnes, 184, 185.  
 David, of Dreghorn, 467-469.  
 David, Archdean of Brechin, 27, 39, 41.  
 David, Robert, James, John, Andrew, 133.  
 David Charles, marriage of, death of, 235.  
 Dr David, 454-462.  
 David, children of, 471.

Pitcairn, David, of that Ilk, children of, 62-76.  
 Elizabeth, 35.  
 Elizabeth, *née* Dury, 43.  
 Elizabeth, Isobel, Catherine, Henry, Robert, Patrick, 126.  
 Elizabeth Denne, marriage of, 234;  
 children of, 234, 235.  
 George Kincaid, 524.  
 Harriet Dalbiac, marriage of, 234.  
 Henry, made Commendator, 118.  
 Henry, of that Ilk, Isabella, wife of, 133.  
 Henry, death of, 142.  
 James, death of, 198.  
 Rev. James, of that Ilk, 186.  
 James, children of, 198.  
 James, Sir, life of, 218; first wife, Harriet Dalbiac, 221; second wife, Emma Pococke, 223; children of, 223.  
 James, knighthood of, 237.  
 James, Sir, testimonial of, 241;  
 death of, 243.  
 James Edward, marriage of, 247;  
 children of, 247.  
 James Pelham, life of, 248; marriage of, 249; letters to, 414-416; his character, 326-330; children of, 325; funeral of, 320-323.  
 John, of that Ilk, 123.  
 John, death of, 132.  
 Joseph, of Carnbee, 466.  
 Lord Robert, 77-122.  
 Louisa, marriage of, 234; sons of, *ib.*  
 Major John, 434-448; death of, 444-446; pistols of, 447.  
 Manor House, 78.  
 Margareta, married David Murray, 19.  
 Marion, 184.  
 May, 519.  
 Miss Hester H. H., 521.  
 Owners of, 471.  
 Patrick, Groom of the Bedchamber, 127.  
 Patrick, of Dreghorn, 470.  
 Ronald, of Pitcullo, 505.  
 Rev. Robert, of that Ilk, 200;  
 children of, 201, 202; sermon, 202-204; death, 205.  
 Robert, Commendator, 46, 48;  
 marriage of, 113; imprisonment, 119; death of, 121.  
 Robert, marriage of, 246; children of, *ib.*  
 Robert, of Pitblae, 339.  
 Robert, W.S., 521.  
 Sale of, 174.

- Pitcairn, Seal, 113, 114.  
 Susannah, death of, 237.  
 William, of that Ilk, 175; sons of, 175; life of, 206-217; death of, 217.  
 William, marriage of, 235; death of, *ib.*  
 Dr William, P.R.C.P., 422-433.  
 Pitcairne, Dr Archibald, 370-400;  
   poems, 375, 376, 386, 396, 397;  
   writings, 377, 380, 392, 393, 394,  
   395, 397, 398; children of, 399.  
 Andrew, of Innerneithy, 333-335.  
 Estate of, 365, 366, 368, 400, 401.  
 John, of Unstoun and Pitcairne,  
   365, 366.  
 John (2), 366-368.  
 Alexander, 366-369.  
 Rev. James, of Kettle, 409-412,  
   415-417.  
 Pitcairnes of Pitlour, 342-363.  
 Pitcairns, 8.  
   of Perthshire, 510-524.  
   of Pitcullo, 503-509.  
   tomb, 83.  
 Pitcarne, George, of that Ilk, 16.  
 Pitcarne, Alexander, of that Ilk, 15.  
   Andrew, of Innerneithy, 337, 338,  
   339, 340.  
   David, of Forthar, 48.  
   David, of that Ilk, 43.  
   John, 48.  
   Egidia, *née* Melville, 38.  
   Henry, of that Ilk, 14, 15, 17, 37.  
   Henry, of Pitlour, 354.  
   Helen, of Pitlour, 355.  
   Isobel, married fourth Lord Lind-  
   say, 19.  
   James, of Innerneithy, 332.  
   John de, 3.  
   John de, 14.  
   John de Drongy, 42.  
   John, of Pitlour, 40.  
   John, of Pitlour, 344, 345.  
   Patrick, 346-352.  
   Patrick (2), of Pitlour, 355.  
   William, of Pitlour, 352, 353.  
 Pitlour, 42, 343.  
 Presentation of plate, 223.  
 Primrose, Sir James, of Carrington,  
   467.  
 Pyttcayne, Piers de, 4.  
 Queen of Scots, Mary, 90-95.  
 Raid of Ruthven, 115, 116.  
 Ramsay, Elizabeth, 18.  
 Richardson, Alison, *née* Pitcairn, 73.  
   Robert, 73.  
 Richardson, Stephen, 73.  
 Royal Charters, 47, 48, 348, 350, 351.  
 Charter to Henry Pitcairn, 139.  
 Grant of Abbey to Henry Pitcairn,  
   134, 137.  
 Grant to Andrew Pitcairn, 146,  
   147.  
 Grant to Andrew Pitcairn of a  
   house, 156.  
 Grant to Sir Arthur Mainwaring  
   and Andrew Pitcairn, 158.  
 Grant to Sir John Mainwaring and  
   Andrew Pitcairn, 164.  
 Grants by Charles I. to Andrew  
   Pitcairn, 149, 153.  
 Letter, King James, 169; to  
   Patrick Murray, 46.  
 Letter, Queen Elizabeth to the  
   Regent, 105.  
 Letters, Mary Queen of Scots, 74.  
 Letters, Queen Elizabeth to Pit-  
   cairn, 105.  
 Robertson, Rev. William, 473.  
   Dr William, 475-493, 494; de-  
   scendants of, *ib.*  
 Romilly, Colonel, 497.  
 Rowley, Toler, 234.  
 Roxburgh, Lady Jane, 145, 146.  
 Roxburghe, Duke of, funeral of, 304-  
   307.  
 Russell, Lord John, first Earl, 497.  
 Ruthven, Elizabeth, wife of Rev. James  
   Pitcairn, 410-417.  
 Ruthven, family of, 412, 413.  
 Saltpetre, 161.  
 Sermon on Prince Albert's death, 286.  
   Rev. James Pitcairn, 196.  
   Rev. Robert Pitcairn, 222-224.  
 Skene, David, 361.  
   John, marriage-contract, 356; will,  
   359-361.  
   W. B., 362.  
 Sydserrf, Janet, 368.  
 Sym, John David, 520.  
   William Melvill, *ib.*  
 Testimonials to Canon Pitcairn, 270-  
   272.  
 University Commission, 113.  
 Unstoun, estate of, 365, 366, 368.  
 Wahab, 467.  
 West, Harriet Pitcairn, marriage of,  
   235; children of, *ib.*  
 Whyte, Marjory, 40.  
   Robert, 43.  
 Willington, *née* Johanna Pitcairn, 453.

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